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Poetry.

For the Blade.

AMERICAN CONSISTENCY.

MRS. GEORGE ARCHIBALD.

"Mother, why did the stranger man,
In Sunday School to day,
Tell us, the children ought to give
Their pennies all away?"
"He was a missionary, child,
From far across the seas,
Where he has labored many years,
To save the poor Chinese."

"Those poor Chinese! They dress their hair
In wicked, braided queues;
And make their women cramp their feet,
In sinful wooden shoes.
They also worship idols, and
The money that we give,
Will hire men to teach them how
The Christian nations live."

"Mother I know a Chinaman,
Who keeps a laundry shop,
I pass it on my way to school;
To-morrow I will stop,
And ask him up to Sunday school,
And buy a bible too,
And tell him he must try to do
The way that Christians do."

"John Thomas, have you lost your sense,
Or were you born a fool?
A *heathen*, fed on nuts and rice,
To come to Sunday school!
Exposing us to leprosy—
It makes my flesh to creep—
They ought to drive him out of town
For making labor cheap!
John Thomas, if you dare to go
And see that laundry man,
I'll give you such a whipping
As a Christian mother can!"

THE OLD-FASHIONED KITCHEN.

H. S. KELLER.

The old-fashioned kitchen, with kettles and pans,
And gable-roof reaching above it;
With daisies and lilies and "sparrowgrass" beds
All scattered about—oh, I love it!

At noon what a feast, when the pies nicely baked,
From the oven with fragrance came greeting!
I've wandered all over but never have found
A place so delicious for eating.

The ivy that cling to the old kitchen porch
Swings gracefully, quiet and steady,
Where expectant I sit as I wait for the call
Which tells me that "dinner is ready."

A sweet little maiden whose elbows are flecked
By the traces of dough and of flour;
A china bowl brimming with roses as rare
A e'er graced a queen and her dower.

The pie-crust so crispy and biscuits so brown,
The roast tit as delicate, juicy and tender;
The coffee so fragrant and eggs yellow gold;
The waitress, twice over I send her.

The strawberry sauce and the green lettuce dish,
The radishes, "snappy," all lay there;
Tist a feast for the gods, and I cannot resist,
Quite man-like and hungry, but stay there.

The old-fashioned kitchen, with kettles and pans,
And gable-roof reaching above it;
With daisies and lillies and "sparrowgrass" beds
All scattered about—oh, I love it!

By the little maiden whose elbows are flecked
A sweet traces of dough and of flour—
She won the way unto my heart, and I guess
'Twas done by her kitchen's endower.

BEFORE THE RAIN.

AMELIE RIVES.

The blackeeps pipe among the reeds
And there il be rain to follow;
There is a murmur as of wind
In every coign and hollow;
The wrens do chatter of their fears
While swinging on the barley-ears.

Come! hurry, while there yet is time,
Pull up thy scarlet bonnet.
Now, sweetheart, as my love is thine,
There is a drop upon it.
So trip it ere the storm-ling weird
Doth pluck the barley by the beard.

Lo! not a whit too soon we're housed;
The storm-witch yells above us;
The branches rapping on the panes
Seem not in truth to love us.
And look where through the clever bush
The nimble-footed rain doth rush!

Our Story Teller.

MIDDLEMAS'S EXPERIMENT.

BY MATTHEW ARNOLD.

I.

I propose to relate with as little circumlocution as possible a suggestive chapter in the career of the Rev. Matthew Middlemas, some time pastor of the Jones-Brown Memorial Church at South Enderby. Graduating in the class of 1876 in one of our Eastern colleges, Middlemas immediately entered a theological seminary, and the fall of 1880 found him a licensed minister. Soon afterward the South Enderby Church, whose pulpit was then vacant, invited him to preach, and a call which he accepted was the result.

It was not surprising that he received this call, although the church was then one of the strongest in that flourishing city. For Middlemas was a young fellow of the first order. His was a large, unselfish soul, a vigorous mind, a body as sound as a coin fresh from the mint. After preaching two years at South Enderby he took an inventory. He found that his congregation had increased in round numbers from 650 to 800, while the membership, as appeared from the church records, had advanced from 310 to 369. His people were greatly pleased. They saw in these figures a confirmation of their wisdom in calling Middlemas rather than any other of the many candidates to whom they had listened. They were convinced that it was a clear case of the survival of the fittest.

Accordingly to attest their gratification they tendered him a reception in the lecture-room of the church and raised his salary. He absolutely declined both the reception and the five hundred dollar advance. Naturally the church was greatly surprised. But the truth is that Middlemas was by no means as well pleased with the outcome of his labors in South Enderby as they were. When one of his deacons for whom he had come to have a great liking rallied him on his refusal either to be received or to have his income pleasantly meddled with, he frankly confessed that he was disarranged.

"Discouraged!" exclaimed the astonished deacon; "what nonsense. Why, dominie, you must have the dyspepsia! Figures don't lie. The statistics you gave us in your anniversary sermon prove conclusively that our church is greatly prospering under your ministrations. If you'd been doing your best, as I'm sure you have, and had nothing to show for it, even then 'twould be your duty to be resigned. But since you've been rewarded with the tangible fruits of success, to complain—well, you've either been eating too much lobster late at night, or you ought to be ashamed of yourself."

Middlemas smiled, stared hard into vacancy a moment with eyes that were not at all suggestive of late lobster or shame, and then replied, "Yes, I admit, Baxter, that those anniversary figures were gratifying, as such figures go. But the trouble with them is that they fail to tell the whole truth. They prove too much. How great an impression for good has our church under my leadership made on the life of this town? That's the crucial test, isn't it? What shall it profit us a religious organization if we increase in numbers if there is no corresponding increase in efficient practical force for the good cause? You may reply that the one includes the other. I earnestly wish it did, but the facts that confront me are stubborn things."

"What facts, dominie?"

"Well, there are more liquor saloons in South Enderby than when I came here. So there are more gambling hells and worse resorts. I know what I am talking about, for I've been interviewing the chief of police. I learn from equally good authority that the bribery of voters at our local elections was never as general nor as shamelessly open as it has been of late. A paper was read a few evenings since before the Municipal Reform club showing the disgraceful condition of the houses and and streets of South Enderby's tenement district. Many grog shops are open on Sunday, though the law says all of them shall be shut. Still other grog shops are in full blast that have no license. I went into one of our leading shops the other day to order some new shirts, and had the conviction forced upon me, from the price asked for what the clerk called our leading make of shirts, 'The Tip-Top,' that one of our departments of the great house was devoted to the nefarious business of starving sewing women. You must admit, Brother Baxter, that these facts more than offset those anniversary statistics. The balance is not in my favor. The devil is rather more than holding his own in South Enderby, and I for one am covered with shame and confusion of face as I think of it. Not any reception nor increase of salary for me, if you please."

There was an awkward pause. Then Baxter with a view to reassuring his pastor ventured to quote: "When we have done all we are unprofitable servants."

"Yes," assented Middlemas, with a quizzical expression in his eyes, "but the fact that one has proved to be an unprofitable servant is not to be regarded as prima facie evidence that he has done all. I'm very far from claiming in the retrospect that I have done anything worth mentioning."

"Bonnie," remarked Baxter affectionately laying his hand on his pastor's shoulder, "don't allow yourself to take morbid views of your duty. There are twenty-one churches in South Enderby. You would actually seem to assume that the pastors of all of them except our own have been doing valiant service, that the painful facts of which you've spoken—well, you must be patient. You mustn't expect too much to happen of a sudden. Rome wasn't built in a day; I suspect that labor as zealously as we may there'll be a good deal of assorted wickedness in this world when we leave it for a better one. The divine command is, indeed, that we should do whatsoever our hands find to do with our might. But our responsibility ends with obedience to that mandate. Consequences are to be left to the Almighty."

"O, undoubtedly, undoubtedly," assented Middlemas, with a shade of impatience in his voice. "I've discovered a tendency in myself—I trust none of my brother ministers shares it—to be so resigned to leaving consequences to the Almighty as not to take as much pains as I might to shape the consequences that I'll have to leave. Just so ministers who are no more called to preach the gospel than they are to make bicycles out of the rings of Saturn, instead of being constrained by their conspicuous failure to abandon the pulpit for a vocation for which they have some aptitude, entrench themselves behind the assertion that the world is to be saved by the foolishness of preaching, and that consequences are to be left to the Almighty. Such phrases are convenient refuges for dullards and drones. I have been a minister here for two years. I find that in that time the town although growing in wealth and culture, has retrograded morally, and to figure that fact, I owe it to my church, to myself, and above all to the good cause, to look it squarely in the face. It is not for me to judge the other twenty ministers of South Enderby lest I be judged twenty times in return. But it is for me to give a strict account to myself of my own stewardship. If the light that streams from my pulpit is darkness it cannot too soon be put out. I've made up my mind to resign."

"Now, my dear Middlemas," exclaimed Baxter, springing to his feet, "let me entreat you not to do anything so ill-advised."

"It is useless to try and dissuade me, my dear deacon," Middlemas went on, with a resolute shake of his head. "I must look at my own duty through my own eyes. I'm not going to abandon my work, for I cannot bring myself to believe that God did not call me to serve Him by striving directly for the Christianizing of the world. Neither have I decided to leave South Enderby. What I do propose to do I'll let you know shortly, when I get my schemes fully matured."

II.

The evening of the day on which he had this conversation with Deacon Baxter, Matthew Middlemas formally laid down his pastorate. His people were dumbfounded. What added to their amazement was the statement appended to his letter of resignation that it was not unlikely that in another month the would continue to labor in South Enderby. The church, which had an inkling of what he proposed to do and which really loved him, replied that it was so thoroughly convinced that he was doing a good work where he was that it must decline to accept his resignation. It was confident that he would retain the pastorate and take such a leave of absence as he desired for any special work, they would be glad to give him an assistant.

Their proposal did not not quite meet Mr. Middlemas's views, but he assented to it. That done, he composed a courteous note to each one of his twenty ministerial brethren of the town, inviting them to meet at his house that day week to consider a plan of co-operative Christian work on which, as he stated, he greatly desired to take their judgment. One of the number declined outright for reasons which seemed to him personally enough both to Middlemas —good and sufficient. The rest accepted. On the night of the conference he ushered such of them as smoked into his front parlor, where a box of cigars awaited them; to the other two he gave seats in the back parlor; he himself took a chair commanding both rooms. When all had arrived and the compliments of the season had been exchanged, Mr. Middlemas quite informally proceeded to outline for them, about as he had for Baxter, his reason for leaving his pulpit. Then he went on something like this:

"I realize that I'm addressing the generals in command of the South Enderby division of the army of the Lord. South Enderby is not a great strategic point; it is not a moral Gibraltar nor a moral pass of Thermop, nor anything of that important sort. And, nevertheless, it is no mean city, and of course it behooves us to render this division of our army as efficient as possible. It is clear, however, from the facts which I have submitted relating to the moral condition of the city, that our forces have of late been overmatched by the South Enderby division of the army of Satan. I'm at a loss to determine why this should be so. It may be that the great capitalists for whom we labor had insensible purpose intended that for the present we should be overmatched. On the other hand, it may be—and this, I take it, you will regard as the more likely supposition—that we are not handling our own forces as skilfully as we might. Why not? Even the siege of Balaklava was criticised as being "magnificent, but not war." Now, assuming my conjecture to be trustworthy, I've ventured to invite you to meet me to consider a plan which is calculated in my humble but well-settled opinion to render our division of the Grand Army much more efficient. The plan looks to vitalizing the army, so far as sectarian movements are concerned, with the strength that follows union. It is a plan that at least has the merit of simplicity. We represent between us twenty churches. South Enderby is divided into twenty wards of about equal size. That's a word and a piece for each church. Of these twenty wards—so the head of our detective force informs me —ten are to be regarded as reputable, five as a little off color, and five as positively bad. Now I propose that each church be held to a strict account to all the others for the moral health of one-half of a reputable ward, for one-fourth of an off-color ward, and one-fourth of a bad ward. In that way we can thoroughly supervise the entire city in such a manner that the burdens of all the churches shall be equal."

"I presume I know, but will you please tell me, Brother Middlemas, precisely what you mean by work that has no sectarian significance," inquired Brother Patterson.

"I mean such work as temperance reform, tenement house reform, Sunday closing reform, sewing girls' wages reform, the phase of political reform that looks to the purity of the ballot-box and the suppression of bribery. You and I, Brother Patterson, do not see eye to eye in regard to the efficacy of sprinkling infants, so that when it comes to denominational work, proselyting work, we could not well co-operate. But certainly we could hitch teams to promote the reforms I have specified. And what crying need there is for hitching teams! Why, this town of ours is not merely so well organized to fight the devil as the fire department is to fight fire. Its chief engineer said to me not long ago, with a glow of pride in his eyes, 'We've got things in such bully shape that it's a cold day when we don't put out a fire before it's made much headway.' I wish our churches, which might also be called—begging your pardon, Simmons (Simmons was pastor of the Universalist church)—a fire department, could quench the fires of evil before they made much headway."

"Middlemas, do you think your scheme is quite practical?" inquired Dr. Stillwell.

"And granting that it is, is not our Young Men's Christian Association rather than our churches the proper agency for actively promoting the reforms you have mentioned? There can be no religion without morality, therefore let our Christian association and related organizations labor strenuously for good morals in the broadest sense of the term—broad enough, for example, to include clean streets and no coming in late to concerts. But had not the churches better confine themselves to their appointed work of commending Christ to sinful souls? To reclaim a man from intemperance does not make him a Christian, but make him a Christian, and his reformation from intemperance necessarily follows."

"Possibly the scheme is not practical," replied Mr. Middlemas. "That remains to be determined; but I should as soon think of doubting my own existence as doubting that the churches could properly put it in execution. Our combined church statistics show or seem to show that this is a religious town; but the police statistics show or seem to show that this is not a moral town. A religious but not a moral town! It is a distressing paradox. I've been struggling with Brother Stillwell that the work of the church is to commend Christ to mankind. But how can we more effectually do that than by self-denying labors for the uplifting of this community? A tree is known by its fruit better than by the best essay that ever was written on pomology. The easiest way to make a farmer love the trees that bears the Spitzenbergs or the Greenings is not to discourse to him about the trees, but let him eat of the apples. O, sometimes when I go about our city and observe the wickedness, the misery, the poverty, the selfishness, that abound, I feel like tying a piece of crape upon the handle of every church door and appending this notice: 'In 188— of the year of our Lord, this church of our Lord, being without works, died. May the Lord have mercy on it.' I am more and more convinced every day that the work in which we are engaged, although upon a notably large and great scale which can command human activities, is worse organized than any other work that is being done in South Enderby. I've already referred to the fire department; take another instance. The other day I called on the president of one of our insurance companies at his office. I noticed back of him a great shelves a large number of what looked like great atlases, and ventured to ask him what they were. He explained that they were books showing by maps all the property on all the streets of South Enderby, and that by referring to them the company could judge of the nature of the risk which it would be called upon to assume whenever any new insurance was offered it. Suppose we had some scheme of Christian work in operation which equalled that for thoroughness; don't you think, brethren, that we could pray 'Thy Kingdom come' with livelier faith?"

"I favor your scheme," remarked Brother Ballaugh. "But how are we going to find time to put it in practice? If we undertake it and it fizzles out the laugh will not be on the churches but on us ministers. Now I for one can't see what with preaching a sermon a week, conducting a Wednesday evening service, attending a pastoral visitation, officiating at marriages and funerals, and explaining to agents that I have on hand all the maps of Palestine that I really yearn for—I say that with all this burden already on my shoulders I hardly feel equal to assuming any other. The spirit is willing, Middlemas, and the flesh is pretty firm, but there are only twenty-four hours in a day."

"I have thought of that," said Middlemas, "but as I look at it, what you regard as an objection to the scheme is one of its good features to me. For, see here, we've found out we ministers have got to be greatly assisted by the members of our churches. That will be an excellent tonic for them. As it is, there is a tendency in our churches toward delegated piety; the minister single handed, or with merely a handful of helpers, is expected to bring about works meet for the faith of the entire congregation Let this scheme be put in force, and the pews as well as the pulpits will be compelled to bestir themselves. The result must naturally be a marked increase of Christian vigor, the Christian muscles of the town will be developed along with the physical muscles that swell in the gymnasiums. As for us ministers, if we find we are overworked under the new system, why, we can preach one sermon a day instead of two, and profitably devote the other service to prayer, praise and an informal interchange of Christian hopes and experiences."

The discussion in regard to the scheme continued until a late hour, and Middlemas succeeded before the company separated in inspiring all his brethren with something of his own enthusiasm. And when he had them, that he had resigned his charge with a view to taking the general supervision of the work and was prepared to be the servant—their general utility man, as he expressed it—of them all, they unanimously agreed to give the scheme a thorough trial

III.

So it happened that Matthew Middlemas's experiment came to be tried in South Enderby. What was the result? Well, the millennium was not brought in, the devil was not driven out, hell in the South Enderby bonfires did not hear the inscription 'Holiness to the Lord.' Nevertheless before the new scheme had been in operation a month it was evident that a moral revolution was in progress in the town. Liquor dealers who had laughed at or defied or made terms with the police found that they could not stand up against the Union. They saw that to fight it was too big a contract, since it meant fighting not some one church, but the aroused Christian sentiment of the entire community.

And so liquor compromised. The saloons that were selling without a license were compelled to close; such a pressure was brought to bear from all sides on the Excise commissioners that they revoked the licenses of the worst of the others; the Sunday closing law was strictly enforced. Realizing that where whisky abounds, liquors that cheer without inebriating should much more abound, the Union at half a dozen prominent points in the worst wards secured lots whereon to erect coffee houses, supplied with reading and chess rooms and other comforts attached. These counter attractions, aided by judicious temperance meetings and a general distribution of good but not goody-goody temperance tracts and related appliances, drove not a few other saloons out of business and served to prevent the opening of new ones.

The gamblers fared still worse. The fact that the Union thoroughly covered the entire city made it inevitable that the haunts of every one of these gentry should be unearthed. This accomplished, the following circular was mailed to them all:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNION,
SOUTH ENDERBY CHRISTIAN UNION,
SOUTH ENDERBY, May 14, 1880.

MR. JOHN DOE:

SIR:—This Union, which includes twenty of the twenty-one churches of this city, is thoroughly organized and equipped for the work in every part of this community. It learns through its accredited agents that you have a faro bank in operation at No —— street in violation of the law and in disregard of the public morals. If within three days your place is not closed you will be promptly proceeded against by the Union, which has on its side public sentiment, law, the best legal talent in the state and plenty of resources.

THE SOUTH ENDERBY CHRISTIAN UNION,
per MATTHEW MIDDLEMAS.

This did the business. The gamblers, saying they would never retreat, retreated. The Union found a more formidable foe in the proprietor of the one of the great dry goods houses of South Enderby. This enterprising merchant was extensively advertising that he was selling the Tip-Top shirt at prices that defied competition. The price for the Tip-Top did defy competition; it also defied the wretched women who made the shirts to keep the breath in their bodies—to say nothing about living—unless they toiled sixteen full hours a day. Most of the women employed on the Tip-Top lived in Ward Four in unspeakable tenement houses.

The churches that were responsible for Ward Four reported the houses to the Union and the Union made such an urgent appeal to the Board of Health and raised such a storm of popular indignation through the public journals and public meetings that the offending landlords were driven to rendering the tenements healthy and fairly comfortable. How to redress the wage wrong of the sewing women was more difficult. The manufacturer of the Tip-Top shirt stood well in the community gave liberally to charitable objects, and was regarded as "one of our leading citizens." After debating his case for some time the Union appointed a committee of twenty, one from each of its component parts, to wait upon and respectfully remonstrate with him.

The merchant listened in silence to what they had to say, and then remarked, while his face flushed with anger, that he gathered from their talk that they had come to mind his business—with strong emphasis on "his." The committee hastened to disclaim any such intention. They had come, they explained, as Christian men representing a great practical Christian organization to request him to consider whether in providing the men of South Enderby with dirt-cheap shirts he was not treating his sewing women with cruel injustice.

"Gentlemen," said the merchant, "this is one of my busy mornings, so, if you please, I'll conclude this interview with two remarks, which you may repeat to the Union with my compliments: First, nobody who conscientiously thinks that he can't afford to pay so low a price for the Tip Top shirt as I am asking for it is obliged to buy a Tip-Top; second, no sewing woman who has reached the conclusion that the price I pay for making the Top-Top is unsatisfactory is obliged to work for me. Good morning."

This ultimatum of the Tip-Top shirt man was reported to and extensively circulated by the Union and by the South Enderby papers. The consequence was that before long the majority of the merchant's male customers had decided that they could not conscientiously, could not as fair and square men, afford to pay so low a price for the Tip-Top shirt. And just as the merchant was making this discovery most of his sewing women, who suddenly had found to their great joy that the arms of the church were stretched out to succor them, sent him word that unless their wages for shirt-making were advanced 50 per cent they would seek work elsewhere.

Seeing that he was beaten and fearing that persistence in his shirt policy would injure his business all around, the Tip-Top man, who was a bit of a joker, capitulated in the following advertisement which occupied a page in each one of the South Enderby journals: "To the Public: In order to place the justly popular Tip-Top shirt at a price to suit the times, at the solicitation of many customers I have raised the price from 69 to 89 cents. Those who feel that they cannot conscientiously afford to buy at the last mentioned figure will be charged 99 cents and no questions asked. A fresh supply received this morning. First counter southwest of the right door."

So, too, arguing that since the churches enjoyed the protection of the city's laws, the city was entitled to the salutary influence of the churches, the Union went into politics—into politics of the non-partisan sort. It had long been said, to the shame of South Enderby, that no person arrested for bribing voters, or for repeating, or for tampering with the ballot-box at one of her elections, had ever been punished. The Union valiantly threw itself into this breach and succeeded, after long and persistent efforts in effecting radical political reforms.

It induced candidates for the leading local offices to pledge themselves openly not to obtain any vote by purchase; at every election it had its own resolute workers at the polls; it offered a large reward for the detection of persons offering or receiving money for votes; it annually prepared and widely circulated a pamphlet showing the record of each South Enderby alderman on measures affecting the city; it preached as occasion demanded the duty of rendering unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsars. And so with an ever-increasing thoroughness and efficiency the Union pursued its work.

Of course mistakes were made Too much was attempted here, there was zeal without knowledge there, the right thing was done in the wrong way yonder. But after charging up all the defects, what a magnificent balance there was on the side of spiritual progress! The experiment accomplished wonders for South Enderby. Hard-headed men talked about it on 'Change, at the clubs, in the horse cars. They said to one another that the Union was bad business, that it was plain to see that the South Enderby churches were composed not so much of professing, but practicing Christians, practicing week days what they professed on Sundays.

The poor, the forlorn, the sorrowing blessed the Union To them it was a helping hand, a cheering heart, a message from the golden rule incarnate and ever active. Nor need it be added that the reflex influence of the Union upon the churches themselves was great and glorious. The winter following the summer when the scheme was first put in operation a religious awakening took place for which there was no parallel in the history of South Enderby. It was as though the day of Pentecost had come again. Thousands enrolled themselves under the banner of Christ.

What was the cause of this great, this unprecedented awakening? It was Matthew Middlemas's experiment. Even as men are led to look from Nature up to Nature's God, South Enderby was led to look from the work of the Union up to the Divine inspiration of the Union. Men and women who had never been inside of a church and who took no interest in their souls were led to ask, Why does this Union take the lead in all movements which are calculated to advance the permanent well being of this town? Why do the needy find it an ever present help in time of trouble? Why is it strength for the weak-hearted, a shield for the oppressed, the unrelenting foe only of evil?

And when these questions were put to them the members of the Union returned every man the same answer. They pointed to the motto of the Union, "The love of Christ constrains us." And thus irresistibly they commanded the faster to those who were without His fold.

Matthew Middlemas's experiment has now been in operation five years. Long ago it ceased to be an experiment and came to be recognized as the leading promoter of South Enderby's weal. Sin in all its manifold forms is fought as manfully and successfully as the fire department meets its obligations to the community. The church as well informed in regard to the character and extent of their risks in every section of the city as the insurance companies are in regard to theirs.

It is understood that Matthew Middlemas never patented his experiment.—*New York Tribune.*

Wilfu' Waste Makes Wofu' Want.

Let me tell you a story to point a moral. Nelson Morris, the $10,000,000 beef packer and shipper of Chicago, has a large butchering factory in connection with his packing house. One day, when roving about the place, he discovered a bit of grease on the floor about as large as a walnut. He called the foreman and a number of workmen.

"Boys," he said, pointing to the lump of tallow, "boys, what do you call that?"

No one ventured a reply.

"That's waste," he went on, in his peculiarly shrill falsetto voice; "that kind of beesness costs me thousands of dollars a year! I don't want to see it around here no more! I can't stand it!"

He Hit Her Badly.

A young man who recently married a New York lady some twenty five years older than himself, was standing in front of his cottage at Elberon the other afternoon, showing a pair of horses he had bought to some friends. His wife, who was watching the group from the window, evidently felt that she was being ignored in the matter, remarked irritably:

"It was my money that bought those horses!"

The young husband turned calmly and looked her straight into the eyes until the old vulgarian withered.

"You are right, madam," he replied, "and it was also your money that bought me."—*Town Topics.*

Most of Them Do.

On the beach at Elberon.

Mr. Dashington—"My dear, isn't your bathing suit cut a little low in the neck, considering the time you've been married?"

Mrs. D.—"Why, George! it's the latest Parisian fashion."

Mr. D.—"I dare say, my dear, but we ought to consider the form."

Mrs. D.—"I was considering my form when I bought it."—*Town Topics.*

African Court Etiquette.

The king's clothing consists of a red cloth, sugar-loaf cap, a few brass rings upon his arms, coral necklace and a yellow silken loose robe. His wrinkled forehead shows that he has had trouble in his time. He is very civil to his chiefs, sending to each, after they make obeisance, a piece of kolah nut. He sent do each of us the same. All who approach the throne, the moment they enter the open space in front—rigidly kept clear—double their right hand into a fist and shake it at the king. Sir Francis said: "I hope that I see you strong and well, O king, like unto my fist and my arm."—*Missionary Letter.*

Humor.

WHAT PLAYS ALL THE MISCHIEF.

The grocers have raised the price of their tea,
On account of the inter-state law;
And doctors, they say, have doubled their fee,
And the air of heaven very soon won't be free,
On account of the inter-state law.
How convenient it is, when you raise on your price,
To bamboozle your patrons with such a device!

The tailor puts up the price or your coat,
On account of the inter-state law;
And the interest is raised two per cent. on your note,
And the heeler has raised the price of his vote,
On account of the inter-state law.
But what is this law that our income all melts?
We don't know what it is. Nor does any one else.

—*Financial Record.*

The railroads have all raised the rates of their freight,
On account of the inter-state law;
So it costs more to carry the mail and parcel,
And the grocery staples are higher at date,
On account of the inter-state law.
How transparent for railroads to raise on the price,
And try to bamboozle with such a device!

Small shippers have always been left in the rear,
So we needed the inter-state law;
But the railroads say to the favorites, "Here,
We'll fix the thing up in the tariff, don't fear,
In spite of the inter-state law."
But the people are earnestly crying out, "Stop!
Give us fair play for all or you'll hear something drop."

—*American Grocer.*

BOOMING DAKOTA.

Some New Instances of Its Remarkable Fertility.

A man was driving through the country in a central Dakota county and got into conversation with a settler who was sitting in front of his house.

"You have a fine farm here," he said to the settler.

"Best in the country, stranger."

"Do you raise big crops?"

"Crops! Big crops?"

"Yes, sir."

"Well, I calcul ate I do"

"The soil is very rich here, I suppose?"

"That don't express it—rich don't do it justice! This soil is perfect, absolutely perfect, best in the world! It is deep as a well, mellow as an ash heap, rich as gold—yes, sir, no other soil in the world will compare at all with it."

"I'm glad to hear it."

"Say, stranger," continued the settler, straightening up, "d'ye hear that kinder holler, poundin' sound."

The man admitted that he didn't know but he could hear something.

"Yes," continued the settler, "kinder boomin' sound like hittin' an empty barrel with an old rubber boot."

"Yes, what is it?"

"Stranger, that's my pumpkins bein' yanked along 'cross the ground so fast they bound up 'n the air every once 'n a while."

"Your punkins? What is drawing them at that rate?"

The vines, stranger, the vines—they'er growin' so fast ye see. We have to take a fast hoss an' lasso 'em when we gather 'em. They'll be 'bout wore out. I have to admit this is a poor place for punking and squashes. See that little knoll over there, 'bout a hundred yards 'cross it an' twenty feet high?"

"That one down there with a bushy tree growing on top of it?"

"Y-a-e-s—but it haint no tree—it's a beet top."

"Why did you plant it on top of that knoll?"

"Didn't, stranger, ground was perfectly level when I planted it there. Beet so big it has kinder re'red the ground up all 'round it and made a knoll. Planted one next to my house the first year, an' it hoisted it up and pretty near tipped it over."

"Isn't the season a little dry for them?"

"They go down to water stranger; that well there is the hole that beet came out of. I had a crabapple tree near the house the same year an' the apples grew so big they busted and broke all my winders. Want to hear how my husk corn?"

"I'll not stand it."

"We chop off an ear an' let it fall on the ground and then husk it with a team—hitch into the end of a husk an' drive long side of the ear an' peel it off and then go back after another."

"Slow job."

"Yes, but there's twenty bushels of corn when we get through. I was out lookin' at my wheat the yesterday, and a head of it struck me on the shoulder and pretty near broke my collar bone."

"Yes?"

"I have to have gas pipe for my beans to climb, they are so strong, an' squeeze so tight that they cut a wooden pole in two in a dozen places."

"Yes."

"There was a big rock down on the back end of my place 'bout ten feet each way an' it stuck down into the ground 'bout four feet. I had a rad ish seed on the middle of it an' the seed sorter smelt the remarkable rich sile down under the rock, as I might say, an' it begun to grow an' down she went, sharp end first, of course, and split the rock in twenty pieces an' chawed it off."

"Yes."

"I might tell ye of lots of other things equally as p'aisin' if I had a mind to."

"I don't doubt it. But see here, are you telling me all these infernal lies because you want to sell your farm?"

"Oh, no, sir; no, sir; I've just told you the usual thing. I don't want to sell—I just do it for the good o' the country. There's some as want to sell, ye see, an' we all sorter pull together—always do in a new country, ye know. The story don't hurt me none an' lots o' you darned fools from the east believes it. I reckon though that you have traveled. Good day; stop if you should be goin' past again."—*Dakota Bell.*

An Aggravating Story-Teller.

Wife (to husband who has just returned home)—"What's the news down town?"

Husband—"Nothing."

Wife—"Of course not."

Husband—"Why, of course not."

Wife—"Oh, well, there is never any news for a woman unless she finds it out herself."

Husband (after a long silence)—"It does seem to me that people ought to be more careful."

Wife—"What about?"

Husband—I was thinking of something that occurred down town to-night. Major Baxter and his family sat out on the front steps until quite late, and when the major got up and went into his room he had not noticed that his prankish little son had slipped away. Just as the major stepped into the room he heard something under the bed—in fact, saw something—and, thinking that a robber had secreted himself there, he seized a pistol and fired under the bed, and—

Wife—Merciful heavens! and shot his little son?

Husband—Who said he shot his son?

Wife—You said that his son went under the bed.

Husband—I didn't.

Wife—What did you say?

Husband—I said that the major did not notice his son when he slipped away from the front steps.

Wife (still excited)—And was the boy under the bed?

Husband—No, a cat was under the bed.

Wife—You are the most hateful man I ever saw.

Husband—Why? Just because the boy did not go under the bed and get shot? I had nothing to do with it.

Heat in Arizona.

A farmer at Yuleta went out to look at his pigs during one of the sizzling days last week, and found nothing left except three buckets of leaf lard.

At Tombstone they have to splice two thermometers together to get any idea of the heat.

San Antonio is bragging about its delightful weather forsthis time of the year, and claims that people there get their ears frostbitten in the evening.

A man at Florence, Ari., has taken so much calomel that these hot days the mercury rises to his head and he gets so top-heavy that he has to walk with a crutch.

The streets of Albuquerque are so hot that small boys get vapor baths by merely following the street sprinkler.—*Mohave Miner.*

Why She Did Not Like George.

"I am devoted to George, of course," said a Chicago girl to her mother; "but I am afraid he hasn't enough of get-up-and-get to him to make any great success in this world."

"Why?" asked the mother.

"Because he always kisses me on the forehead."—*Puck.*

NO HUMIDITY IN THIS.

Midsummer Jokelets From Original Sources and Suitable for Appreciative Minds.

Magistrate—"What is your name?"

Vagrant—"That shows you are a green hand at the business. All your predecessors knew my name."

Big buttons still continue to be fashionable A Texas lady missing two buttons on her dress, asked her boy if he had seen them. "Yes, ma, the cook's got them. She uses them as lids to the saucepans."

A.—What are you reading?

B.—It is a very useful book for those who don't know how to swim.

A.—How so?

B.—If you fall overboard all you have to do is turn to page 57 and read the directions, and you are safe.—*Texas Siftings.*

Mose Shaumburg, Jr.—Vader, vat ish a gapital grime?

Mose Shaumburg, Sr.—Ven a man takes less den five persheut a month for dot gapital vat he lends out. Dat vas one of de most gapital grimes dot der vas.—*Texas Siftings.*

Gus DeSmith recently called at the residence of the Widow Flapjack. The widow and her daughter, Lilly Flapjack, received Gus in the parlor.

"Mr DeSmith, don't you think I resemble my mother?"

"Lilly," said Mrs Flapjack, sharply, "don't display your vanity and egotism so much."—*Texas Siftings.*

Strong-minded woman, to a relative, who has called on her—My husband has now got a position in the orchestra. He plays first fiudle.

Relative—Not at home, does he?

"You bet he doesn't play first fiddle at home."

"That's what I thought."—*Texas Siftings.*

"You smoke a great deal, Gus?" said a friend to Gus De Smith.

"Yes," replied Gus, "particularly after dinner. I have got so in the habit of smoking after dinner that the dinner doesn't taste right when I eat it unless I have a smoke afterwards."—*Texas Siftings.*

Husband—Wife, hand me out my Sunday coat.

Wife—But, my dear, this is not Sunday; it is only Saturday.

"I know it's only Saturday, but I'm going to attend a fashionable dinner, and it will be Sunday before I get back."

"How does it happen that there are so many old maids among the school teachers?" asked a reporter of a teacher the other dao.

"Because school teachers are, as a rule, women of sense; and no woman will give up a $60 position for a $10 man," was the reply.—*Cartersville (Ga.) Courant.*

A middle-aged man at the beach, whose wife thought the water too cold for bathing that day, encouraged her in a novel way:

"No, Mariar," he said, pointing to some iron waste pipes that entered the waves near where he stood, "don't you see? They're runnin' hot water into the ocean an' heatin' of her up."

Mr. Moneybags, who has recently acquired a fortune—It's a shame and a disgrace the way everybody conspires to rob a rich man.

Friend—What's the matter now?

"Well, you see I had a little party at my mansion last night."

"So I saw by the papers."

"And to amuse my guests I ordered some music."

"Yes, I heard you ordered a quartette?"

"Just so, and darn my buttons if four singers didn't crowd into the room and sing and I had to pay all four of them, and mind you I only ordered one solitary quartette. That's the way I'm swindled every day of my life and I am tired of it."

Tommy Yerger is of a musical turn of mind, and to agreeably surprise Col. Yerger, has composed a new piece of music without his father knowing anything about it.

On Col. Yerger's birthday Tommy sat down at the piano and sprung the new madrigal on his pa, expecting to be rewarded with at least half a dollar.

"Softly sighs," exclaimed Col. Yerger; "can't that brat let up practicing his exercises on my birthday?" and seizing a cane he pursued Tommy three times around the house before he overtook his musical offspring, who proceeded to sit down nineteen consecutive times on that cane.—*Texas Siftings.*

Tom Auferry, a student at the University of Texas, neglects to pay his bills, and consequently several bill collectors are camping on his trail.

An old, experienced collector, who had succeeded in collecting bar bills from members of the Texas legislature, tried his hand on Tom.

Calling at the boarding-house of the Widow Flapjack, on Austin avenue, he asked if Mr. Auferry was in his room.

"He is; shall I call him?" asked the widow.

"Well, no," replied the collector, "on reflection I don't think it worth while. If Mr. Auferry had any money he wouldn't be in his room; he would be in a billiard room or in a bar-room. Good morning, ma'am."—*Texas Siftings.*

Some of the candidates are giving themselves extra trouble to conciliate the Austin voter. A few mornings ago just as the sun was beginning to inflame the eastern horizon, a gentleman on his way to market met a candidate in a deplorable condition, holding on to a lamp-post on the corner of Austin avenue. He had been running all night in convivial company.

"Are you going home, Colonel?" asked the early riser.

The candidate looked at the questioner with a ludicrous expression of disgust and replied:

"Nigh ish are getting so long now, can't sleep at night. Wanzer sense of going home before dark? Give sun a chance to set."—*Texas Siftings.*

He Changed His Mind.

"John, dear," she said, when he came home from business the other evening.

"Well, what is it?"

"The girls want to go on a picnic, and they've been over to see if we won't go and chaperon them."

"Well, we don't. That's all!"

"Why, dear?"

"Because I've been there."

"I'm sure it was quite delightful the last time. The woods were so lovely, and it was a nice company."

"Yes, I dare say. It was all right for you. But as soon as we got into the grove one fellow strolled off accidentally with a girl; another fellow got a second girl to go down and look for wild flowers with Simpson, and everybody paired off with somebody else and left me all alone to entertain your mother."

"My dear, you know——"

"Oh, yes, I know. You all came back and apologized for deserting us, and you all thought, of course, you were the only two who had gone; if you hadn't you would certainly not, etc. It's too slim a proposition, Bertha; altogether too slim."

"But, dear, if mother doesn't go——"

"No, I won't—well, who's going?"

"There's Julia, and Josie, and Sadie, and——"

"I don't mind so much. You're sure your mother won't go?"

"Quite sure."

"All right. I don't mind doing the propriety dodge."

Her Little Secret.

Charlie—"What in the world are you girls giggling about? What is it, Carrie?"

Carrie—"We are just reading—"

Lizzie—"Don't you dare to tell him, you awful creature, you!"

Carrie—"I will

Recent Literature.

The story of "The Monk's Wedding," which Cupples & Hurd, Boston, published last week, is intensely interesting because it is not only founded on fact but on truth to nature. The historical picture it presents is also one worthy of study, the principal figure being that of Dante, who plays (as far as the peculiar bent of his character would allow) an every day part in the proceedings. It is he, in fact, who relates the tale, while Cangrande and the chief personages of his court are grouped about the fireside in a noble hall. The translation is by Miss Sarah H. Adams, whose translations from the German of Prof. Grimm have deservedly received such high praise. "The Monk's Wedding" cannot fail to add to her reputation.

"A Lad's Love" is a very pretty story by Arlo Bates, published by Roberts' Brothers, Boston. It tells of a boy's strong passion for a beautiful woman who is much older than himself, and how she treated the matter, finally leading him to a happiness which promises to be real for a life-time. It is excellent summer reading.

Number Three of the "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War" has been received. It contains "McDowell's Advance to Bull Run;" "The Opposing Armies at First Bull Run," and several more papers about the same battle. "The Confederate Commissariat at Manassas," "The First Year of the War in Missouri," and "In Command in Missouri" are the others. The writers represented are Generals Pry, Beauregard, Imboden, Joseph E. Johnson, and Major Campbell Brown, Col. L. B. Northrup, Col. Thomas L. Sneade and General John C. Fremont. Sold by subscription only, at 50 cents a number. Issued by The Century Co., New York.

From G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, comes in the series of "Questions of the Day" a pamphlet entitled "The Margin of Profits—How it is Now Divided and What Part of the Present Hours of Labor Can Now be Spared," By Edward Atkinson. It is an address delivered last May before the Central Labor Lyceum of Boston, and will bear a careful reading.

Literary Notes.

Matthew Arnold is writing an autobiography.

Lord Brassey has presented to Hastings, Eng., a reference library valued at $75,000.

An alleged "Piece of a Comet," natural size, will be pictured in the August *Century*.

Joel Chandler Harris's new serial story, "Azalia," illustrated by Kemble, will begin in the *Midsummer Century*.

The Appletons will publish the collection of essays which Sir John Lubbock has grouped under the title of "The Pleasures of Life."

The new German edition of Goethe's collected works has been intrusted by the Grand Duchess Sophie, of Saxony, to a publisher in Weimar.

Every book in the British Museum library bears inside the cover a label, the color of which indicates how the volume was obtained—whether by gift, purchase or exchange.

Gen. Greely, of Arctic fame, and now the chief of the Weather bureau, will have a narrative in the midsummer *Century*, entitled "Our Kivigtok; an Episode of the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition."

Mr. E. C. Stedman, at his cottage in Newcastle, N. H., has been engaged on a supplementary chapter for the thirteenth edition of the "Victorian Poets," His "Poets of America" has reached its fifth edition.

The principal feature of the "Lincoln Life" in the August *Century* will be the account of Lincoln's famous Cooper Institute speech, which was an important though unintentional step in the direction of his Presidency.

Mr. G. R. Sims, the English novelist, has edited a book entitled "Mary Jane's Memoirs," written by an English servant girl. The matrons of England are indignant that Mr. Sims should have lent his name to extending the circulation of such a volume.

The remarkable series of articles on European politics recently published anonymously in the *Fortnightly Review* are now reprinted by the Harpers in their "Franklin Square Library." They are assigned on the title page to Sir Charles Wentworth Dilke.

Cupples & Hurd, the publishers of "Yesterday with Actors," by Rose Reignolds-Winslow, have announced that they will receive subscriptions for a large paper edition of the book, limited to 150 copies, with additional illustrations. The book is one which is eminently adapted to the purpose of extra illustration.

A new edition is to be published in India of Sleeman's "Rambles and Recollections of an Indian Official"—a book brought out half a century ago, but pronounced by Prof. Max Muller, in his "India: What Can it Teach Us?" to be an authoritative account of native character by a most accurate and unprejudiced observer.

Foot Gear For Ladies.

Boots ought always match a costume. There are many reasons for this, but the chief one is that they give the foot a tidier appearance, generally, than the universal black boot, and, moreover, the boot looks much smaller from the harmony with the skirt beneath which it shows—another point decidedly in its favor—as the tendency is to save women from wearing too tight boots.

Some complain that shoes matching every costume are too expensive luxuries, but the argument does not hold good in the light of our experience, for the "life" of a shoe ought certainly not to be longer than that of a gown, and the custom of putting on a pair of boots which outlasts with many women, and wearing until worn out, with any and all dresses, is responsible for the wretched incongruity of new gowns with half-shabby boots and *vice versa*, and too often a woman's whole appearance is thrown out of concord by such discrepancies.

The sum invested at one time will certainly be larger when wearing boots to match costumes, but they will last longer, and what is of more importance yet, preserve the feet well and sound for walking; for it is an admitted fact that boots worn without giving them a rest become very trying to the feet from a physiological standpoint. Indeed, utility, beauty, comfort, cost, are all in favor of boots and gloves for each gown, and the woman who thinks she cannot afford these articles had far better purchase one less gown a year and devote the money saved to consistencies of the toilet in the shape of ever-changing boots and gloves for other costumes.

Alcohol Not a Help.

It is well known that the men in the logging camps and on the log-drives are able to do better work on the whole with the use of alcohol or any other stimulant. It has been asserted also that when men are exposed, as on the special trips in the Arctic expeditions, to great extremities of cold and exhaustion, they have been able to endure greater exposure and fatigue on tea than on any greater stimulant. Gen. Greely, of Arctic fame, now comes forward to confirm this testimony by the experience of his men when they were so near starving at Cape Sabine. The use of alcohol was not attended with increase of vital power, and the men who did entirely without it came off the best in the terrible struggle for life. His testimony makes the point that men do their best work under trying circumstances by using tea or cocoa, not by resorting to alcohol. He urges this point in the August *Forum*, not on moral, but on economic grounds. He thinks that he will not have given his testimony in vain if it shall have the effect of convincing among my class of laboring men the mistaken idea that their capacity for work is increased, or their powers of endurance to exposure and cold enhanced, by the use of alcohol. Here is a sound, economic argument for temperance, or even total abstinence.—*Boston Herald.*

Good Advice for Warm Weather.

One good way to avoid being sunstruck is to keep the elbows perfectly straight.—*Philadelphia News.*

"I Ought to Write You that My Wife is Dead."

This is a sad duty that many a widower is obliged to perform, but in the following instance the writer was not a widower. It is from a farmer in Ira, Jasper Co., Iowa, and is dated Feb. 8, 1886:

"I ought to write you that my wife is dead, in order that the predictions of the physicians should become true; *but, thank God, she lives, and is getting better* as fast as could be reasonably expected; is up all day generally, and is able to get around quite lively; appetite good. Did not get the bed extracted, as you advised, but killed a fat heifer, and ample justice is done to the steak."

Those who want to know more about Compound Oxygen, which achieved such felicitous results in this case, will do well to write to Drs. Starkey & Palen, 1529 Arch street, Philadelphia, Pa., and ask for their brochure, which is sent free to applicants.

HOW TORNADOES COME.

An Interesting Discussion of Their Causes and Mode of Motion.

In view of the prevailing drought in the west and the violent storms and flood in the east, "The Instability or the Atmosphere" is a topic that is seasonable. Probably that is the reason why Prof. N. S. Shaler chose to write under that caption for *Scribner's Magazine*. In the August number of that publication the professor treats the subject in an exhaustive manner, and gives his theory of the origin of whirlwinds and tornadoes in language so plain that the unscientific can thoroughly understand his explanation.

He begins by describing the cause of simple whirlwinds, which are generated in a manner somewhat similar to the formation of a tornado.

"The common cause of this whirling movement, is the existence of a heated layer of air next to the surface of the earth, which air, by virtue of its greater heat, tends to be more expanded, and therefore lighter than the overlying cooler mass of the atmosphere. With certain trifling exceptions * * * * * * the heat of this sheet of air next the surface of the earth is due to the fact that the direct rays of the sun pass more easily through the atmosphere than do those of the rebounding radiant heat which flows from the earth's surface outward into space. The result is that the ground becoming more heated than the over-laying air, gives out its heat to the lower layer of atmosphere just above its level, and so creates a heated stratum which, on account of its gain in temperature, seeks to find a way upward. For a time, if there be no wind, this buoyant air may be shut in by the layer of cooler air which overlies it, and through which it finds no path; but as the sheet grows thicker it finally, by some chance, makes a way through the heavier stratum which holds it down, and escapes to the upper regions of the atmosphere to which its buoyancy impels it."

Prof. Shaler then proceeds to show how the whirling storms develop:

"Beginning at sunrise on a day of unbroken calm, this process of heating the air next the ground goes on until afternoon; the tension then becomes so great that the hot air, because of its lightness, breaks through the cold. The place where the weak spot in the everlying roof of cold air is found is determined by various accidents. Some heated treetrunk or tall object of any kind rising a little through the cold layer, may at that place make the hot air thicker than elsewhere, and consequently the strain upward at this particular place will be greater. As soon as this bottom air finds a way upward, it swiftly rushes toward the point of escape. Immediately after the up-rush begins the air streams in from every side toward the chimney, at first slowly; then, as it gains velocity, more and more swiftly. As it gets toward the center its velocity is accelerated and the particles of air crowd against each other. As soon as the upward movement is established, we find that the particles of the atmosphere take on a whirling movement."

The professor says tornado whirls differ in certain essential particulars from the way in which whirlwinds are created, the most important point of difference being in the origin of the heat of the lower stratum of air which in the case of the tornado is cyclonic.

"When a cyclone passes over the surface of a country, certain peculiar movements of the atmosphere which it produces bring large volumes of the warm and moistened air to the earth's surface and overlay them by a cold stratum. * * * * This layer of warm, moist air tends to rise up for the same reason that the thin layer of dry air which forms the dust-whirl is impelled upward, but on account of its great mass the intensity of the upward urgency is far greater."

Prof. Shaler says that in the tornado the stratum of heated air is usually about 1,000 feet thick, and for that reason its whiling action naturally originates at the surface of the hot layer. The whirl extends progressively downward until it may touch the surface of the earth. The more nearly the particles of air approach the center of the whirl the stronger the centrifugal force becomes, "and the air pulls away from the center just as does the weight attached to the string when it is coiled nearly to the finger. The result is a partial vacuum near the center of the tornodo shaft which seeks to be filled."

The suction of this vacuum is what causes the frightful demolition of everything in the path of a tornado, and the removal of articles of weight seemingly beyond the uplifting ability of the aerial force. The vacuum, when it passes over buildings, causes a sudden expansion of the air confined within them, and the walls burst asunder and are scattered far and wide.

The professor says that as from the manner of the formation of the destructive whirling winds there can be no hope that man can ever prevent their occurrence, the only thing that one can do is to provide places of shelter from them, and to so construct one's dwelling place that it may be proof against the terrible suction of the tornado. He advises that houses be built of thick masonry, well cemented together and provided with strong roofs well anchored into the walls. The windows of the house, from cellar to attic, should be made large, so as to afford egress to the sudden and expanded air during the prevalence of the tornado. He also advises the construction of refuge chambers a little below the surface immediately adjacent to the southwest side of the house. "The records of Western tornadoes show within the last ten years a loss of killed and wounded of between 1,000 and 2,000 persons. By far the greater part of these accidents to life and limb might have been avoided if such provisions for refuge had existed."

Prof. Shaler's article will undoubtedly be widely read. It certainly should receive much attention from residents in sections of the country subject to visitations from whirlwinds.

Not an Impartial Witness.

The following story comes to the Listener from a Maine city; and it strikes him that, for once, he may break, in its behalf, the old rule never to call a story a good one before it is told:

One evening, not long ago, there was arrested, in this city, an old gentleman of position and of cheery habits. The policeman said he had found the old gentleman on the street very drunk. The complaint was entered against him, but as he seemed to be able to get about, he was released on his own recognizance, and sent home in a hack, which he paid for with great alacrity. When his case came up in court, the only witnesses summoned to prove his condition were the policeman and the old family servant of the accused, a faithful and devoted retainer.

The policeman had given his testimony, which was unqualifiedly to the fact of the old man's intoxication. Then the old servant was called to the stand. There was a mingled expression of indignation and determination on his countenance. He testified flatly, to the surprise of the courtroom, that the old man was sober when he came home. The prosecuting attorney proceeded to question:

"You say that Mr. ——— was sober when he came home?"

"Yes, sir."

"Did he go to bed alone?"

"No, sir."

"Did you put him to bed?"

"Yes, sir."

"And he was perfectly sober?"

"Yes, sir."

"What did he say when you put him to bed?"

"He said, 'Good night.'"

"Anything else?"

"He said as how I was to call him early."

"Anything else?"

"Yes, sir."

"What was it. Tell us exactly what he said, every word."

"He said as how I was to wake and call him early, for he was to be queen of the May!"

The court room roared. And in spite of the old servant's very positive testimony, the accused was convicted and fined.—*Boston Transcript.*

A Fast-Gaited Florida Hog.

At Tocoi, Florida, lately a hog made it a point to stand on the track whenever he saw the locomotive coming, and the considerate engineer stopped for four successive days to drive him off. At last, tired of humanity that knew no gratitude, the train hands assembled to see the hog demolished. He was on the track awaiting his doom—an extra speed was drawn from fat pine hurried into the furnace with malice prepense. The hog raised his head in surprise when no stop was made, and seeing his danger, started in a gallop down the track. In vain the engineer rushed forward in maddening speed till the coached locked and ladies screamed in terror. When the train reached Palatka the hog was leisurely eating corn at Vertrees's stable. That hog has since been struck by lightning; so that he is not for sale as a race-horse.

Peculiar.

In the combination, proportion, and preparation of its ingredients, Hood's Sarsaparilla accomplishes cures where other preparations entirely fail. Peculiar in its good name at home, which is a "tower of strength abroad," peculiar in the phenomenal sales it has attained, Hood's Sarsaparilla is the most successful medicine for purifying the blood, giving strength and creating an appetite.

THE AUGUST SKIES.

The Planets, the Solar Eclipse and the Meteors.

Jupiter is evening star, and, after the 15th, will share with Venus the honors of the early evenings. At the close of the month Venus sinks below the western hills an hour and three-quarters before Jupiter makes his exit.

Venus becomes evening star on the 15th of the month, when she appears in her greatest brilliancy. Since August of last year she has been traveling toward us, and increasing in size and brilliancy. At the same time she has been turning less and less of her illuminated disc toward us, passing through the phases of the moon from full to new. Until the 15th, the increasing size of the planet's disc has more than counterbalanced the lessening portion, which is illuminated, and, as every observer must have noticed, the fair evening star has grown more brilliantly beautiful. After the 15th, the illuminated crescent rapidly diminishes, until it becomes exceedingly thin.

Jupiter is now passing from quadrature to conjunction, receding from the earth and approaching the sun.

Mercury is morning star throughout the month, and on the 28th it is in conjunction with Mars; but this meeting between the two smallest members of the sun's family cannot be observed, for both actors in the scene are invisible. On the 16th Mercury rises an hour and a half before the sun.

Saturn is morning star. He is fast emerging from the solar rays, and at the close of the month rise more than three hours before the sun.

The August moon filled on the 3d, and after the 12th makes conjunctions with Neptune, Mars, Saturn and Mercury. On the 18th Mercury will be visible to the naked eye, and the slender crescent of the waning moon south of the planet will serve as guide to point out his position. On the 21st the moon will be in conjunction with Venus and Uranus, and on the 23d she pays her respects to Jupiter.

There will be a total eclipse of the sun on the 19th. Our satellite, when, at new moon, she passes between the earth and the sun, will completely hide the great central orb from the view of those who are in the right position of the globe and under the right conditions to behold an exhibition of celestial grandeur far surpassing any other seen by mortal eyes. Unfortunately, our country is not the favored spot for a view of the grand spectacle. The inhabitants of a narrow belt of sand in the eastern hemisphere will behold the phenomenon in all its awe-inspiring glory. The moon before their wondering gaze will encroach on the solar surface until every particle of sunlight is hidden from view. The greatest glory of the scene is then unfolded. The great globe of the moon, of inky blackness, seems to hang suspended in the heavens. A radiant crown of silvery light surrounds it, and rosy protuberances like tongues of flame blaze forth from the inner border. No words can express the sublimity and grandeur of the exhibition.

The path of totality for the coming eclipse passes through Germany, Poland, Russia, Mantchooria and Japan, reaching its limit in the Pacific ocean. Astronomers from all parts of the world are establishing themselves in the most favorable positions for observation, and will make the most of the few precious moments at their command for wresting from the sun some of the weighty secrets held in his omnipotent grasp. The most favorable stations will be at some distance east from the commencement of the path of totality, for the further east the observer is the later will the eclipse occur.

On the 11th the earth will plunge headlong in the August meteor zone, and on the 10th, 11th and 12th the careful observer will be sure to see a large number of them radiating from the constellation Perseus, and hence called Perseides. It is well to keep close watch for these curious cosmical atoms, for there may be an unusual display at the most unexpected moment. There is always a delightful uncertainty about comets and meteors, as well as a close resemblance between them.

LUCKY HE DIDN'T KICK.

Justice When Justice was Not Blind or Halt in Wild Arizona.

An old resident of California who had seen some very queer times and many changes, says the San Francisco *Chronicle*, got to talking the other night of a trip he made to Arizona some years ago, just about the time of the Tombstone boom.

It was quite extraordinary, he said. The country was full of desperadoes and bad, bad gamblers, and they were very dangerous, too. They ruled Tombstone at that time. A friend of mine was in Tombstone, and one day he saw a noted desperado and murderer—a man for whose head a big reward was offered. He knew the chief of police and he went and told him about it. Inside of the day he got a notice that they give him one hour to quit Tombstone, and he quitted. Now in Tucson there was law and order and those same desperadoes who went about shooting in Tombstone would go down to Tucson and behave like the most guileless of citizens. This was mainly on account of an old judge there, a German, who feared none of them and had his own emphatic way of serving the law. They knew if they got into a scrape in Tucson they were in for it, and they'd get no mercy. He had, perhaps, rude ways of carrying on the law, this old judge, but they were very effective. One day a notorious character was brought up for something. They had the whipping-post there then. The old judge looked at him and said:

"I think I see you before, no?"

The culprit admitted that he had been there on several occasions.

"Wal, I just sentence you to 40 lashes. You take twenty of them to-morrow, and then vas released on your own recognizances, and you come back in a week and take the other twenty."

The fellow had his twenty lashes, and he hasn't been seen in Tucson since.

Another little example of the judge's way of doing things was the case of a man brought up before him for firing off a pistol in the street, or something. They had taken $340 from him when he was arrested.

"I foost fine you $200," said the judge.

"Why," said the prisoner, "in San Francisco they would only fine me $5 or $10."

"You vas in Tucson, mein friend—$200."

The man was complaining bitterly after he paid the fine.

"Don't kick!" said another. "You were lucky. If he'd known you had $340 on you he'd have fined you all of it."

Some fellow who was being tried moved for a change of venue.

"You want a change of venue? What for?" asked the judge.

"Because the court is prejudiced against me and I won't get a fair trial."

"You say the court is prejudiced against you and youl won't get a fair tria? You vant a change of venue, mein friend? I joost fine you $300 for contempt of court to begin with. Now we'll proceed with the trial."

Septimius will Probably Get a Consulship.

Old Septimius Severus Todd, of Bardstown, Ky., who came on here about ten dago to talk to the President about a small foreign consulship, seems to have been completely fascinated by Mr. Cleveland. Chatting in the reading room at Willard's last evening he said: "It has never been my fortune to look upon a nobler man than Grover Cleveland. He combines Roman strength and massiveness with Greek intellectuality. I knew Henry Clay, but I like Mr. Cleveland, who has a purer power which Clay did not possess. We have not had such a President since Andrew Jackson. There is something in his beautifully modulated voice which charms me. He is to me the embodiment of power, wisdom, honesty and manhood. He has an eye such as I never saw in a man's head—so kindly, yet so majestic. It seems to me that he was specially raised up to guard and care for the republic. It may sound sacrilegious, but if I were a painter trying to paint the features of Jehovah, I would take Grover Cleveland for a model." The impression is here that Old Septimus Severus Todd will receive an appointment of some kind.

What Is the Object?

In this month's *Forum* Mallock discusses, "What Is the Object of Life?" Of course, he doesn't tell. The fact is that people who have an object don't need to be told what it is, and people who haven't any find the effort to live decently without one severe enough to engross all their faculties.—*Rochester Union.*

A Perilous Postponement.

To postpone, when the duty for immediate action is clear, is always unwise. Especially is it so when increasing ill-health calls for a resort to medication. Diseases of the kidneys and bladder are often of swift growth—always of fatal tendency, if not combatted at the outset. We have all—even those of us who are not remarkably well instructed—heard something of the danger attending Bright's disease, diabetes, and other diseases of the kidneys or bladder. Let no one be foolhardy enough to procrastinate if he perceives the real organs to be inactive. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters are peculiarly adapted to overcome this inaction, to sufficiently stimulate, without exciting the kidneys and bladder. Infinitely is this diuretic to be preferred to the impure and fiery stimulus of commerce, which prove the bane of unwary persons with a tendency to renal troubles. They are likewise incomparable for dyspepsia, debility, fever and ague and biliousness.

A LINEMAN'S LIFE.

A Few Points About Crossed Wires, Decayed Telegraph Poles, Etc.—How They Are Attended To.

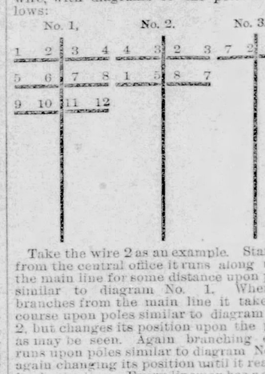
A man walking along Summit and other Toledo streets would naturally wonder how in the world the hundreds of telegraph wires were ever distinguished from one another and how in the world they were kept in order. A person not posted on the mysteries of telegraphy will wonder how a man can sit at a little ticking instrument and apparently over the same wire talk to New York or San Francisco at pleasure.

It is by no means a child's play to thread the wires in a large city, and experienced men are required to "keep the lines clear," in the parlance of telegraphy. He learns by experience, and does not acquire his trade as some colleges would teach journalism, out of a book. He begins as a ground-man, at a modest salary, making small and unimportant repairs at first, until he gradually works up. He learns to clamber up the poles with spikes on his feet, and must needs learn to keep a clear head at a great height.

The compensation of a lineman is from $40 to $75 per month, the former salary being paid in rural districts and the latter in cities where the work requires the most skillful linemen.

There are dangers, too, and one can well believe it when walking along Summit street he will see one of the sojourners in the air working at the top of a high telegraph pole. Oftentimes there are decayed poles, broken cross-bars and electric light wires—the last being the most dreaded. These wires are supposed to be covered with a substance which is a non-conductor of electricity, but experience has proven that this substance is susceptible to the weather and becomes worn off in places. These spots are sometimes fatal to the lineman.

The question will naturally arise in the mind of the curious, "How in the world does a lineman know which one of the labyrinth of wires is the one to be repaired?" In telegraph offices there are large folios containing descriptions of every wire, with diagrams of the poles as follows:



Take the wire 2 as an example. Starting from the central office it runs along upon the main line for some distance upon poles similar to diagram No. 1. When it branches from the main line it takes its course upon poles similar to diagram No. 2, but changes its position upon the poles as may be seen. Again branching off it runs upon poles similar to diagram No. 3, again changing its position until it reaches its destination. Every lineman has a small book containing diagrams of the poles and wires in his district, copied from the folios in the Western Union office. When a break occurs, a wire needs repairing, he has only to follow it, book in hand, until he reaches he pole nearest to the place where repairing is necessary. Another question is, how are the damaged portions of a wire located to certain districts? Simply by telegraphing from station to station. If a break occurs in the line running from here to Chicago, the nearest station is signalled, and if all is right, answers the signal, repeating the operation until a section is reached where no answer is received. This locates the break. When a storm sweeps over a certain portion of the country it is often necessary to bring all the linemen for hundreds of miles around to the scene of destruction. Often they are brought from distant states in order that the necessary repairs may be made with all possible expedition. During the winter months a lineman's life is one of great hardship. He is often required to climb poles covered with ice and to handle wires that stick to his hands. When the wires are reported down in the Northwestern states large gangs are dispatched to make repairs, for no man could work for more than half an hour on top of a telegraph pole with a blizzard blowing about his ears. Gangs of workmen accompany them to dig out the fallen poles, which are often covered with snow. It is no unusual occurrence to hear that simple statement, "The wires are down," but the wonder is that they are put in order again in such an incredibly short time.

Negroes in England.

Colored people are apparently very popular in England. There does not seem to be any prejudice against them on account of their color. There are not many colored people in London. The few that I have seen, says a correspondent, from time to time are invariably in the company of white people, and associating with them upon a footing of perfect equality. I saw the other day upon Regent street a negro girl, black as a coal, walking and leaning upon the arm of a fashionable, well-dressed Englishman, who seemed perfectly charmed and contented with his dusky companion. In the same way I have seen white women, respectable in their appearance and dress, walking in public leaning upon the arms of negroes. Frederick Douglass, when he was here, said there did not seem to be any prejudice in England against the negro on account of his color. "The other day I visited the Temple; there I found a negro hard at work in the library reading up for an examination. I was told that his color would not stand in his way in the slightest degree when he came to be examined for admission as a member of the English bar.

Powell's Military Rank.

"Dan."

"Your Excellency."

"Dan, I love Powell like a brother—he says such nice things about me, hits my conscience, my courage, and my ability 'way up, you know."

"Verily, he does, your Excellency."

"But, Dan, much as I like this adulation, don't you think the boys are ranking Powell pretty high for a hundred-day private?"

"But everything goes, your Excellency, when the veteran's around—politics, you know."

"Yes, I know, Dan, but I guess you'd better write the Payne Promotion Agency to take off his straps and let him run as a corporal. You see, Dan, it may be chilly in Ohio next November and it doesn't look well for a gubernatorial general to be commanding a routed minority in rapid retreat. But Powell did speak sweet of me, didn't he, Dan?"

"Well, I should smile, your Excellency."

Woman's Courage.

In courage the ordinary woman greatly outstrips the ordinary man. Whether it be reckless, unconscious, or sublime, the element of personal courage that acts, A at the intrusion of a mouse, knifes no fear in the face of real danger now lady who would not venture from her rural front door alone was often met abroad leading a 3-year-old child by the hand. We asked if she considered the infant's presence a protection; she answered, "In a measure, yes; for when I am alone I feel that I have no right to be away, and would run from a shadow, but if I were attacked with this child I would defend it to the last." Some persons may account for this on maternal theories. But the lady was not related to the child and she was unmarried.

To Consumptives.

Reader, can you believe that the Creator afflicts one-third of mankind with a disease for which there is no remedy? Dr. R. V. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" has cured hundreds of cases of consumption, and men are living to-day—healthy, robust men—whom physicians pronounced incurable, because one lung was almost gone. Send 10 cents in stamps for Dr. Pierce's book on consumption and kindred affections. Address, World's Dispensary Medical Association, 663 Main street, Buffalo, N. Y.

How to Cool a Watermelon.

The perfect Georgia watermelon is that which has been cooled in a dry well. To freeze so genial a thing in a refrigerator is to impair its tropical tone and to deaden certain honeyful impulses that beat in its warm heart. A melon in placid reflection at the bottom of a dry well, harmonizing slowly with the delicious coolness of the earth, is a melon approaching idealization.—*Atlanta Constitution.*

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria,
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria,
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria,
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

OUR WEEKLY SALAD.

In view of the wonderful multiplication of translations of the works of leading Russian writers, the article entitled "The Spell of the Russian Writers" is well worth reading. Not that the author has really analyzed these authors' works and explained whence comes the subtle spell that causes them to be found in the hands of most lovers of good literature, but she has given an exceedingly good criticism of the writings of those whose names are most familiar, showing how the prevailing spirit is the sad one, that sees and mourns over the lack of true and individual liberty in that child's play to thread the needle of telegraphy. She calls attention to the similarity between Dostolvesky's greatest novel, "*Crime et Chati ment*," and Hawthorne's last romance, both being details of a "horrible crime committed under an overwhelming temptation, a long evasion of justice, followed by a voluntary surrender and a course of unflinching expiation."

It seems to the salad-server that one cause of their popularity is the intense earnestness of all of these greatest writers, which is almost without exception, made to pervade their characters and to penetrate their every action. Even in the most trivial, one feels that there is something underlying, something that may at any moment cause a wild and wierd transformation in all of the circumstances, and the narrative is followed with a vague longing, that grows into intensity, to know what strange thing is to be the outcome. Even Tolstoi, the philosopher, who has retired from all public scenes to live in seclusion upon his estate, who is an apostle of absolute non-resistance to injury, gives one a sensation of a volcano, liable to burst forth at any unforeseen moment. These Russian writers are all in such deadly earnest.

If there is one thing more than another which shows the bent of a person's mind, the direction of thought most natural to the individual, it is the choice of a summer outing. Of course everybody, or almost everybody—takes one, and the places where it may be taken are numberless. Setting aside those who may have a definite purpose, such as quiet for overtaxed nerves, special relief from some disease, and the trend of the footsteps tells the story. The society lovers, those who cannot exist without the excitements that are crowded into the winter's whirl, throng to the fashionable watering places, the women with their Saratoga trunks containing all of the variety of dresses, etc., that the purse and desire of the owners will allow; the men prepared to while the days and nights away with the choicest liquors and cigars, intermixed with card-playing and whatever other amusements may come to their hands. A few weeks of rest at a select place on the seashore or in the mountains has no charm for them.

And the men have no better conception of what a summer outing should be than the women. Custom simply renders Saratoga trunks with their belongings unnecessary in their case, but they are quite as anxious to make a show by proxy in the persons of their wives and daughters, or in the waythey spend their money. Human nature has certain general qualities that are neither specially masculine or feminine, and this is one. Speaking of "making a show," this is what Louisa Chandler Moulton says in her book of "Ourselves and Neighbors:" If there is one current expression more intrinsically vulgar than another, it is to talk of "making a show," a word not to make a slave of. To be conspicuous, not to draw special attention to ourselves, is the very essence of good-breeding. Dr. Johnson found that woman well dressed whose clothes he could not remember. How the old bear would have growled over some of the watering-place toilets of to-day! Not that one would object to a certain bright and festal aspect which belongs to the place and the time as roses belong to the summer; but to strive to outshine one's neighbors, or to dress for a watering-place hotel as if it were the Queen's drawing-room, is the height of vulgarity.

It is said that each year diminishes the number of those who seek the crowded resorts during the heated season, and more and more go where they can live nearer to Nature, where gay dress can be discarded and simple costumes indulged in; where the sports are such as take everybody out of doors, and give them the fresh air and exercise which bring renewed life anewyrs. It is fast coming to be felt that there is scarcely any physical derangement under the sun that cannot be cured by an out door life. Certain it is that the increasing vigor which is noticed in American women particularly, is, without doubt, a large part due to this recently developed love for extended pleasuring in the open air, and the seeking of more quiet and secluded summer resorts.

The young belles of Newport have orginated a new method for killing time which has some merit therein. They meet at the house of one of their number, and seat themselves around a table with writing materials at hand. A bald-headed French professor (why he must be bald is not explained) comes in and places himself in the corner, and the entertainment begins. The hostess reads aloud from a manuscript very slowly, and the rest of the girls seize their pens and begin to write a French translation of the article. Woe to that unlucky one who must consult the dictionary, for she runs far behind. The translations completed, they are submitted to the professor, who decides upon the best and worst, and to the winners are awarded prizes provided by the hostess, who later, has a luncheon served. This is decidedly a unique entertainment, and will be likely to improve the fair ones in French, if it does nothing more.

English society papers are very severe upon American women, classing them indiscriminately together as willing to go to all lengths in order to get into court circles, and to be presented to the queen. They say it requires all the force and authority of the Lord Chamberlain and the American minister to restrain them. They term a mob. Of course this wholesale denunciation is unjust, and lately an editor of one of these papers acknowledged that he did that sort of thing to please his readers, who were English women. The Americans, he said, rarely read his paper, and consequently did not see his abuse of them, while it increased its popularity among his subscribers. It was purely a matter of dollars and cents, and justice did not enter into the calculation.

Why Should You Advertise?

Advertising is the chief auxiliary in trade.—*Tooke.*

Advertising is not the road to success, but success itself.—*Richardson.*

Advertise your business; I owe all my success to it.—*P. T. Barnum.*

The most truthful part of a newspaper is its advertisements.—*Jefferson.*

The man who pays more for shop rent than advertising, does not know his business.—*H. Greeley.*

How can one man know what you want unless you ask for it, or what you have to sell unless you advertise it?—*M. Halstead.*

The advertisements which appear in a public journal take rank among the most significant indications of the state of society of that time and place.—*Dickens.*

If you advertise it gives your place a reputation around; folks will crowd to your warehouse and make it too lively. If you don't want to do anything, keep as still as you can.—*C. P. Bonnes.*

There is an absolute necessity for advertising; there is a great eagerness to compete for attention, and no one gets it unless it is by giving, as it were, so many strokes of the hammer, one after the other, to compel people to notice what is going on.—*W. E. Gladstone.*

Tiny Bits About Fashions.

Black lace dresses, it is very easy to see, are this season in highest possible favor.

Plazza shawls and evening wraps are displayed now in every possible style and variety.

Jet pockets seen on some of the girls of the period on parade are exceedingly beautiful and stylish.

People say that next winter different colored lace parlor window curtains will be the fashion.

Black satin waists, embroidered in scarlet, are seen and pronounced effective at the watering places.

For afternoon and evening dresses there is no material so fashionable as what is known as nun's veiling.

Many ladies on summer hotel piazzas this season have taken up old-fashioned "tatting" for fancy work.

The swan is taking the place of the overworked stork on embroidered fire screens and oblong wall banners.

Black tulle dresses worn over silk are seen at Newport this season, where all that is really new and elegant in fashion is to be admired.—*New York Mail.*

Feminine Sleeves.

There is quite an effort to popularize leg-of-mutton and bishops' sleeves, but the tight coat sleeve, in one or another form, holds its place among fashionable and unfashionable people, but nowadays it is not tight, but loose above the elbow.

The Camp Fire.

[Contributions from the old soldiers are earnestly solicited by the editor of the CAMP FIRE. No matter if you cannot write a lengthy history of your lives, for we much prefer short, lively sketches, personal and historical. All communications will be attended to, and to contributor will be overlooked. We do not want anything from the records, as we are supplied with a full set.]

THE OLD THIRD ARMY CORPS.

BY PRIVATE JAMES R. HILL.

Come, comrades, fill the glass again
And toast the Fifth of May;
For a quarter of a century passed
Since Williamsburg's dismal day.
In joyous pride we meet to-night
To talk our campaigns o'er,
And recall the deeds of those we love
In the old Third Army Corps.

At Chancellorsville the *right* was broke,
Which made us all feel blue,
As "Stonewall Jackson" aimed his best
To cut our line in two.
Right gallantly we checked him there
While the battle's brunt we bore,
And show it in the loss sustained
By the old Third Army Corps.

By would-be-critics it has been said
Our commander was at fault
When he advanced to beat Gettysburg,
Which formed the foe to halt
Till there was time to bring up troops
And artillery to the fore;
But the victory was saved to us
By the old Third Army corps.

It has e'er been taught by master-minds
As a strategy profound:
"In choosing a defensive line,
To take the higher ground,"
And naught can dim the hero's fame
Who moved to the cannon's roar,
And bravely fighting, nobly fell,
With the old Third Army corps.

Loved Kearney, Hooker and Heintzelman,
Birney, Berry and Whipple brave;
Famed chieftains of the "Diamond," too,
Are sleeping in the grave.
But when "Lights out!" shall sound for us,
We muster here no more—
At "roll call" they will welcome us
Of the old Third Army corps.

—*Grand Army Review.*

Bits From the Battle Field.

Members of Co. B, 11th Mo. Inf. Vol. are requested to send their address to box 197, Mortonville, Jefferson Co., Kansas.

H. A. Lawrence writes that he was a member of Co. E, 21st. Wis. Vol. Inf., and is now for Sherman and Lincoln in 1888.

We are receiving every day new versions of the "Dying Soldier." We now have over 100 different poems, with that title, and we will be able to make up a very respectable scrap-book out of the collection if they continue to come in.

A "Constant reader of the BLADE" writes to inform us that we are injuring the Republican party in attacking Cleveland's rebel flag doctrine. With all due respect to the writer, we insist on pursuing our rash course.

J. R. McCrary, of Ellaville, Ga., writes: From which county in Iowa did Co. C., 10th regiment of Iowa volunteers enlist, and what is the county seat? John Q. A. Fredericks, a prisoner in the Andersonville prison, speaks of having four sisters. If either of them should see this they can learn all about their brother by addressing me.

E. E., Orland, Ind., says: Please give me information through the columns of the BLADE where any soldiers of the 12th Illinois cavalry, Co. H, can be found.

Big Bend Veteran Re-Union.

EDITOR BLADE:—As I am an old subscriber, will you please publish the following: The Big Bend veteran re-union will be held at Ottawa, Ill., on Aug. 24, 25 and 26. At these re-unions, we always have a good time, and a cordial invitation is extended to all comrades to meet with us. The camp is located in Allens Park, a beautiful grove on the south side of the Illinois river where there will be plenty of tents, good water and shade. The Ottawa mineral springs are near by. The programme is varied, and interesting, embracing regimental and battery re-unions, campfires, sham battles, speaking by comrades, who are known the country over, exercises on the river to points of interest, etc. The 4th and 14th cav. 28th, 39th, 44th, 47th, 53d, 84th, 104th regiments Ill., will hold re-unions on the 25th, as will also several other regiments. We expect to have 25,000 people present.—JOHN H. HORNER, Co. C. 53d Ill., local committee on re-union.

From a Soldier's Wife.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE:—I am a constant reader of the BLADE. I love to peruse its columns, be best and most interesting to me is the CAMP FIRE and its columns. I first turn to them to see if I can find a word from any of the 114th Illinois. For the first time, in the week's issue of April 21st, I saw a small article from two soldiers daughters named Nora and Susie, Eattenhill, Ill. They said their fathers were in Co. E, 114th Illinois. My husband, also a soldier, S. H. Gre

Question Bureau.

1. The true name and postoffice addre ss must b given in all cases, but when specially requested they will not be published.

2. No attention will be paid to mathematical problems, questions of grammatical construction, or inquiries regarding the reliability of individuals, firms or corporations.

3. Communications for this department MUST be written on a separate sheet, directed to the "Question Bureau," and contain not more than three questions. Do not ask a question and then proceed to argue it. If we can answer it and it is considered of general interest, it will be answered. It is useless to request an answer in the "next issue." The Question Bureau is always full, and we are usually two or three weeks behind.

4. This department is not intended to settle party disputes or decide bets. Replies to questions are intended to be of general interest, and no one has the right to DEMAND a reply. Do not request an answer by mail.

5. No question will receive the SLIGHTEST attention unless the first and third rules above are STRICTLY complied with

Henry M. Stanley.

H. M. B, Olympia, W. T.:

Will the BLADE tell something about the life of Stanley, the explorer?

In 1840 Henry M. Stanley, whose real name was John Rowlands, was born near Denbigh, Wales. When three years old he was sent to the poor house as a pauper. At fifteen he shipped on board a vessel bound for New Orleans, and found employment with a merchant named Stanley, whose name he afterwards adopted. Him and gave him his name. His benefactor died intestate and young Stanley was again left homeless. He went into the confederate army and became a prisoner. He then enlisted in the United States navy and became acting ensign on the Ticonderoga. After the war he decided to join the Cretans, who were trying to throw off the Turkish yoke and before going made himself to the New York *Herald* as their correspondent. Upon his return from America he visited his birthplace and gave a dinner to the children of St. Asaph's poor-house, telling them he owed all the success in life to his training, or would ever be able to achieve in the future, to the education he received there. The year following he went with the British expedition against Theodore, king of Abyssinia, as correspondent for the New York *Herald*, sending news of the victory to the English press before it was announced officially. The succeeding year was given to the civil war in Spain. While at Madrid he received a telegram from the *Herald* which said: "Come to Paris on important business." He started forth, and there met James Gordon Bennett of the New York *Herald*. How important the business was to be considered really when he was pulled from results, which are now a part of history.

At that time nothing had been heard from Dr. Livingstone, who was making explorations in the heart of Africa for two years. Great interest was felt in his fate, and Mr. Bennett ordered Stanley to find Livingstone at any cost, and at his own expense fitted out a party of 192 men and supplies. No pen can describe the sufferings in the jungles and morasses of that terrible country. After eleven months of unavailing search Stanley wrote in his journal "No living man shall ever be censured for needless death and prevention. But death—not even this; I shall not die—I will not die—I can not die! Something tells me I shall find him, and write it larger—FIND HIM, FIND HIM! Even the words are composing." This was prophetic, and shortly afterward, November 10, 1871, he did indeed find Dr. Livingtone at Ujiji lake. Stanley explored with him the northern portion of this lake, remaining there four months.

Dr. Livingstone would not return to England, but sent his journals by Stanley, who arrived the following July. He was presented with a gold snuff-box set with diamonds by the queen, and a gold medal by the Royal Geographical society.

After the death of Livingstone in 1872, the London *Daily Telegraph* engaged Stanley to continue the explorations. The journey of 7,000 miles across the continent was full of the extremity of human suffering. By death and desertion 224 out of 356 men were lost. But Victoria N'yanza, the largest body of fresh water in the world, was discovered and explored, as well as many other small lakes and rivers. As they came to the ocean one day he fairly crazy with delight, shouting: "We have reached the sea; we are at home!" then disappeared into the forest and was never seen again.

Upon Stanley's return to England all Europe honored him and the different sovereigns sent congratulations and medals. He again went to Africa under the auspices of the International African Association, founded under the patronage of the king of the Belgians, who appropriated £150,000 per annum to the project of opening the country about the mouth of the Congo to civilization.

Last year Mr. Stanley came to this country on a lecturing tour, when he was suddenly called by the king of the Belgians to head a relief expedition to rescue Dr. Edward Schnitzer, better known as Emin Bey. February 3, 1887, Stanley left England for Zanzibar, which he reached February 26. By March 11 he was at Cape Town, and by the 26th at the mouth of the Congo. His last known address indicated that on the 28 ult. he had left Aruwimi for Wadeli. He is at this writing (August 1, 1887,) reported dead; but the report lacks confirmation.

Natural Gas.

J. A. J., Napoleon, O.:

Will you be so kind to tell when natural gas was first discovered and when first used for fuel?

The earliest use of natural gas on record is China, where for centuries it has been conveyed through hollow bamboos from fissures in salt mines to the surface for burning purposes. Near the Caspian Sea, in Asia, there are places where natural gas is said to exude from the earth, and a similar phenomenon is to be seen in the Sandstus salt mine in Hungary. Natural gas was first discovered in this country in the neighborhood of Fredonia, Chautauqua county, N. Y., early in the century. Here it was first put to use by some enterprising citizens in the year 1821. A small well was bored in the village to the depth of 27 feet and the gas was conducted through pipes to the houses, where it was used for illuminating purposes alone. It is said that in 1824, on the occasion of Lafayette's visit, the village was illuminated with natural gas in such a style. A well was drilled in 1850 to the depth of only 70 feet, continued to supply the village with illuminating gas until the year 1858. It is noteworthy fact that the discovery of the fluid's value as a fuel was not widely known it did not lead to any further experiments, either in the neighborhood or in other places, till fully twenty years after 1821. Even then the discovery was merely part of it was found that the wells which were bored for salt in the Kanawha Valley yielded large quantities of gas. In 1841 this gas was first used as fuel for boiling the brines obtained from the wells. Nearly all the wells drilled for the purpose of obtaining petroleum afforded natural gas in abundance; it was, in fact, a considerable inconvenience to those engaged in sinking the wells, and often a source of serious danger. In 1865 a well which was sunk for petroleum at West Bloomfield, N. Y., struck a flow of natural gas. An effort was made to utilize this, and the well was capped. The success was complete. By August 29, 1870, the situation was understood to be very critical, though an apparent improvement on the 26th and 28th again aroused hope. At his own earnest desire the President was removed, Sept. 6 to Elberon Park, near Long Branch, N. J., in the hope that the cooler air of the seaside, might renew his strength more rapidly. However, the improvement hoped for did not appear, and Sept. 19 there was a serious relapse, with well-marked symptoms of blood poisoning, and Sept. 19 the President died. A post mortem examination showed that the ball, after fracturing one of the ribs, had passed through the spinal column, fracturing the body of the vertebra, driving a number of small fragments of bone into the soft parts adjacent, and lodging below the dancreas, where it had become completely necrysted. The immediate cause of death was hemorrhage from one of the small arteries in the track of the ball, but the principal cause was the poisoning of the blood from suppuration.

National Banks.

L. Martin, Topeka, Kan.; Jacob Khale, Ren City, Ia., and H. M. Gaticen, Lillian, Neb.:

Give history of the banking system of the United States since banks were first known in this country, and since banks became national institutions?

The first bank in this country was in Philadelphia in 1780, and the bank of North America was planned for 1781 and opened 1782. The Massachusetts bank was incorporated 1783; that of New York was chartered in 1791, although since 1784 under Alexander Hamilton's "Articles of Association," it had been doing business. Alexander Hamilton also originated a plan for a United States bank with a capital of $10,000,000, three-fourths to be paid in United States stock at six per cent., which plan was adopted and approved by Washington in 1791. The bank was reorganized in 1816 with a capital of $35,000,000, the United States contributing $7,000,000 with interest at 6 per cent., but in consequence of a general financial depression was the next year (1792) in great danger of failure. The United States legislature refused to renew the charter, and the bank, now called the United States bank, was chartered in Pennsylvania, and eventually failing, the whole account was settled 1856. The $28,000,000 deposited by bank-holders in 1836 and 1837, while the government realized $6,083,167 upon its investment of stock. State banks were afterwards chartered in the interest of individual and dominant political parties. The state banks were sometimes fraudulently obtained and currency issued to three times the amount of their capital, and in 1814, 1837, and 1857, many of them suspended payment a reform inaugurated in Massachusetts in 1825, and a "safety fund system" recommended by Mr. Van Buren, adopted 1829. In 1838 the "Free Bank Act" passed the New York legislature, which authorized any number of persons to form a bank association subject to certain specific conditions and liabilities. Banks may now be organized by any number of persons over five, with a capital of at least $100,000, unless cities of less than 6,000 inhabitants, when a capital of $50,000 is needed, while if the population is over 50,000 the capital must exceed $200,000. One-third of the capital must be invested in United States bonds and circulating notes to the amount of 90 per cent. may be issued upon this. In 1874 an act provided for the deposition with the Treasurer of sums of not less than $5,000 in United States bonds as security; another, 1875, authorized an issue of circulating notes unlimited in extent, but commanded a limit be placed in 1907 at which time they must be retired to $300,000,000. The New York banks were required to hold one-quarter of their deposits and circulation as a reserve fund, others to hold 15 per cent. for the same purpose. But this provision was repealed in 1874. The interest at which National banks may loan money is regulated by the laws of the states, (but where none such is stated 7 per cent. has been generally understood). The surplus of the banks was, in 1865, $50,000,000, and in 1877, $150,000,000. One thousand six hundred and twelve state banks have been turned into national banks, and have brought $40,000,000 into the system. One per cent. tax is annually paid upon the circulation of the bank, and one-half per cent. upon their capital not in United States bonds.

The Dead Sea.

E. B., Orrsburg, Mo.:

Please describe the Dead Sea. 2. Why was Desoto buried in the Mississippi? 3. What is the difference between copper and bronze?

The Dead Sea is southeast of Palestine. It it about forty miles long with an average breadth of nine miles. The depth of the Dead Sea varies considerably. Soundings in the north have given about 220 fathoms. This depth, however, gradually lessens towards the south where the water is shallow. Its extremity, where the water is shallow. Its surface, which is lower than that of any water known, is 1,312 feet below the level of the Mediteranean sea. The shape is that of an elongated oval, interrupted by a promontory which projects into it from the southeast. The Dead Sea is fed by the Jordan from the north and by many other streams. It has no apparent outlet, its superfluous water being supposed to be entirely carried off by evaporation. Along the east and west borders of the Dead Sen there are lines of bold and in some places perpendicular cliffs, rising in general to an elevation of upward of 1,000 feet on the east and 2,000 on the west. These cliffs are chiefly composed of limestone, and are destitute of vegetation save on the east side, where there are ravines traversed by fresh-water springs. The north shores of the lake form a spacious plain, a desolate muddy flat, marked by the blackened trunks and branches of trees strewn about and incrusted with salt, as everything is that is exposed to the spray of the Dead Sea. The southern shore is low, level and marshy, and desolate and dreary in the highest degree; the air is choking, and no living thing is to be seen. On this shore is the remarkable mass of rock called Usdum (Sodom.) It is a narrow, jagged ridge of hills, extending five miles north west, and consisting of rock salt. Large blocks have been broken off from this hill, and lie strewn in all directions along the shore, adding to the dreary and death like aspect. To the north of Usdum and at no great distance, is the supposed site of ancient Sodom. Although the hills surrounding the Dead Sea are composed principally of stratified rock, yet igneous rocks are also seen; there are also quantities of post-teriary lava, pumice-stone, warm springs, sulphur, and volcanic slag, clearly proving the presence here of volcanic agencies in some period. The neighborhood of the Dead Sea is frequently visited by earthquakes, on which occasions it has been observed that the lake casts up to its surface large masses of asphaltum, of which substance the cups, crosses, and other ornaments that are made and sold to pilgrims at Jerusalem chiefly consists. The long-entertained belief that the inhabitants from this lake were fatal, is not founded upon fact: birds have been seen flying over and even sitting upon its surface. Within the thickets of tamarish and oleander, which here and there skirt the shore, may be seen upon its brink, the birds sing as sweetly as in more highly-favored quarters. A curious plant grows on the borders of the Dead Sea, which yields fruit called the apple of Sodom, beautiful in the outside, but bitter to the taste, and when mature, filled with filter and dust. The water of the Dead Sea is characterized by the presence of a large quantity of magnesia and of sea salts. Its specific gravity ranges from 1,172 to 1,227 pure water being 1,000, and contains about eight times more salt than that of the ocean. 2. Desoto was buried in the Mississippi to prevent the discovery and mutilation of his remains by the savages who inhabited the country at that time. 3. Bronze is a reddish yellow, fine grain alloy of copper and tin in variable proportions. Copper is one of the most frequently known metals. In earlier times copper does not appear to have been used by itself, but always in admixture with other metals, principally tin, forming what is now called bronze.

Australia—Captains Cook and Parry.

E. L. D., Benton, Ill.:

1. Who was the first whom was Australia discovered? 2. Give a description of Captains Cook and Parry's voyages.

1. In 1606 the north coast of Australia was discovered by the Dutch on board of the Duyfken, and about the same time by a Spanish expedition sent from Peru in 1605, one of the commanders of which gave his name to Torres Straits. It is probable, however, that Australia had been seen by navigators before this time. In 1618 and 1622 respectively the west and southwest coasts were seen. In 1642 the island, called for some time Van Diemen's Land, but now Tasmania, was discovered by Tasman, who within a few years visited New Zealand. In 1797 Sunn river was discovered by Vlaming. In 1770 Cook, then on his first voyage, explored nearly all of the east coast, discovering the sound New South Wales. 2. In February, 1810, Parry was sent to the Arctic regions in command of a ship, for the purpose of protecting the British whale fisheries and improving the admiralty charts of those regions; but in 1818 he was recalled and dispatched to join the fleet then blockading the coast of the U. S. He remained on the North American station till the spring of 1817, and during this time he had written a treatise in manuscript on "Nautical Astronomy by Night." Having returned too late to take part in the African exploring expedition, he was, at his urgent request, entrusted by the recommendation of Mr. Barrow, secretary to the Admiralty, appointed to the command of the Alexander, under the orders of Capt. John Ross in the Isabella, and dispatched in search of the northwest passage in April, 1818.

He was again sent out in May, 1819, and this time commenced that career of discovery which has immortalized him as the greatest of all Arctic explorers. The ships were Hecla, under the command of Parry as a polar expedition, and Farry set sail in her accompanied by Lieut. J. C. Ross, April 4, 1827. The journals of these voyages were published by order of the admiralty. He were published by order of the admiralty. He became commissioner to the Agricultural company of Australia, for which country he sailed July 20, 1829. He returned to England in November, 1834, and filled in succession various government offices, continuing up till December 1846, when he retired from active service, receiving a sinecure office. On June 4, 1852, he was raised to the rank of rear-admiral of the White, and in September was appointed Knight Grand Cross of Greenwich hospital, an office which he held till his death, July 7, 1855, at Ems, Germany, whither he had gone for his health. Capt. James Cook born 1728 at Marton, in Yorkshire. At first apprenticed to a haberdasher, he afterwards went to sea, and having spent some years in coasting vessels, entered the royal navy, in which he soon rose to the rank of master. The charts and observations, which he drew up as marine-surveyor of the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador, introduced him to the notice of the Royal society, which offered him the command of an expedition to the Pacific ocean, to make an observation of the transit of Venus over the face of the sun. The voyage being one to his taste, he accepted the offer and set sail Plymouth, August 26, 1768, in the Endeavor, a small ship of 370 tons. The expedition arrived at Tahiti (or Otaheite as he ratied it) on April 13 the following year. The transit was witnessed in a most satisfactory manner on June 3. Leaving Tahiti on July 13, Cook visited New Zealand, which had not been touched at by Europeans for a century and a quarter, and having spent nine months in exploring its coasts, sailed westward, reaching New Holland, now Australia, April 19, 1770. Having explored a large portion of the coast he steered for New Guinea, passing between Australia and that island, and thus proving what had heretofore been doubted, that the two were distinct islands. Continuing his voyage by Java, Batavia and the Cape of Good Hope, Cook anchored in the Downs, June 12, 1771. A second voyage for the discovery of what was then called the Terra Australia Incognito, which was now believed to lie in higher latitudes than had heretofore been explored, was undertaken by Cook in the year of his return; and the expedition, consisting of two ships—the Resolution and Adventure—sailed from Plymouth on July 13, 1772. His second voyage proved the non-existence of land of any extent between the 50th and 70th parallels. Cook arrived in England again July 30, 1775. He determind to seek the Northwest passage by the way of Behring's straits, instead of Baffin's Bay and Davis' straits, the route formerly attempted. In his old ship, the Resolution, accompanied by Capt. Clarke in the Discovery, they sailed from Plymouth July 12, 1776. In his last voyage Cook met his death at the hands of savages, on the island of Hawai, while endeavoring to recover a boat which had been stolen from the Discovery. This tragical event occurred February 14, 1779; not, however, before Cook had made valuable additions to our geographical knowledge of the coasts of America and Asia in the region of Behring's Straits. The news of his death occasioned deep and general regret. The King of England granted his widow a pension of £200, and each of his children £25, while the Royal Society did honor to his name by having a gold medal struck in his commemoration.

Settlement of Connecticut.

A. I. Y., Ligonier, Ind.:

1. Explain the duties of a bookkeeper?

2. Give an account of the settlement of Connecticut.

1. The duties of a bookkeeper are numerous, they consist in keeping track of the firm's business, (in all firms there is a different style of bookkeeping. A bookkeeper must be honest, a ready reckoner, and excellent penman. The position is a hard one, and very frequently the business success of a firm depends upon the accuracy and honesty of the gentlemen who presides at the bookkeeper's desk. 2. Connecticut was explored by the Dutch before 1620, but was included in the patent given to Sir Ferdinando Gorges and James I. In 1631 the sachem of the Connecticut river region sent invitations to Gov. Winthrop and Gov. Winslow to send immigrants to settle in the Connecticut valley. A trading house was also built by the Plymouth colony, around which the Windsor colony afterward gathered, the same year. But the first permanent settlement was made in Wethersfield, 1634, and other towns established as Windsor and Hartford in 1635 and 1636 by parties from different parts of Massachusetts. Saybrook was settled in 1635. In 1637 an independent government was organized, which immediately declared war against the Pequots, destroyed their fort, killed 400 of them and broke up the tribe. For nearly 30 years Connecticut was perfectly independent, but with the Restoration a charter was necessary, and that of 1662 confirmed all the privileges of the previous constitution, James II having determined to abrogate all the Northeast charters, sent the royal governor, Sir Edmund Andros, to demand that of Connecticut; but on which occasion the lights were suddenly put out during the night session of the legislature and the charter concealed in the now famous Charter Oak. Upon the accession of William and Mary it was restored, and continued in force for 129 years. Connecticut rendered efficient service during the French and Indian wars, and in the Revolution did more than any other colony in proportion to wealth and population.

The Corn Laws.

E. D., Dublin, O.:

What are known as the corn laws?

Corn laws is the name popularly given to certain statutory enactment, which had for their object a restriction of the trade in grain. The English corn laws date as far back as the year 1360, in the reign of Edward III. Before this period, there seems to have been a general rule carried into effect by the crown against the exportation of any grain, and the act of 1360 enacts the prohibition, but at the same time excepts Calais and Guisnes, with any other places which the king may appoint by a license, from its operation. In 1393 the arrangement was reversed, and the right to export was made general, unless to those places to which it was prohibited by royal proclamations. An act of 1436 permitted exportation when the price of wheat did not exceed 6s. 8d. per quarter. Hitherto there seems to have been no prohibitions against importation, but in 1463 an act was passed prohibiting it so long as the price at home was below 6s. 8d., at which there was no importation. The next change was in the reign of Henry VIII., when an act of 1534 prohibited all exportation except by license specially granted under the great seal. This act was not found to work well, and twenty years later the previous arrangement was adopted of allowing exportation when the price had reached a certain point.

The subsequent legislation for some time merely changed the rate at which exportation might begin, generally enlarging it. After years of legislative attempts at adjustment, the Corn Law was repealed in 1846.

Pensions—Public Lands—Patents.

Readers of the BLADE who desire special information regarding pensions, instead of inquiring through the Question Bureau, should write directly to Hon. John C. Black, commissioner of pensions, Washington, D. C., for full particulars information, to Hon. Wm. A. J. Sparks, commissioner of the general land office, Washington, D. C.; and for patents to Hon. B. J. Hall, commissioner of the patent office, Washington, D. C.

Miscellaneous.

M. L. Ryan, Gresham, Mich.:

Does carbonic acid gas rise or fall in sleeping apartments. Please answer and give explanation.

It rises.

H. P., Malcom, Iowa:

Did Robert Lincoln consent to return the rebel flags while he was secretary of War, under Arthur's administration?

No, he did not.

J. H. S., Edgerton, O.:

To settle a dispute, will you please answer this question: Was Napoleon Bonapart I. born in France or Corsica?

In Corsica, which is an island under French control.

D. O. Hoffman, Macy, Ind.:

To decide a controversy, will you please publish in your next issue of the BLADE Cleveland's plurality over Folger for the governorship of New York in 1882?

192,854.

H. E. A., Wallace, Kan.:

Is there any tin manufactured in this country, if so, how much and where?

Tin is manufactured very extensively in Pittsburg.

D., Flora, Ill.:

What position does D. R. Locke hold on the BLADE?

Your other question has been handed the "Farm" editor. Don't ask such questions of the Bureau. He is the proprietor and editor.

Reader, Harrisburg, Pa.:

Will you please answer in the QUESTION BUREAU the following: Where and how is pitch manufactured?

The common kind of pitch is the black residue which remains after distilling wood tar. It is made extensively in Russia, Norway and North America.

W. A. K., Pleasant Hope, Mo.

1. How many United States Representatives has the state of Missouri? 2. If not too numerous please give their names and district from which elected?

First district, W. H. Hatch, D.; Second, J. B. Hale, D.; Third, Alex. M. Dockery, D.; Fourth, James M. Burns, D.; Fifth, Wm. Warner, R.; Sixth, John T. Heard, D.; Seventh, John E. Hultan, D.; Eighth, John J. O'Neil, D.; Ninth, John M. Glover, D.; Tenth, Nathan Frank, R.; Eleventh, Richard P. Bland, D.; Twelveth, W. J. Stone, D.; Thirteenth, Wm. H. Wade, R.; Fourteenth, Wm. Dawson, D.

P. O., Galva, Kan.:

1. Please publish a brief description of the Gatling gun. 2. Also publish a sketch of the life of Admiral Farragut.

1. Gatling gun, a mitrailleuse or repeating machine-gun invented by Richard Gatling, at Hartford Conn. It consists of a number of breech-loading rifle barrels revolving around an axis and fired while revolving. 2. John H. Dahlgren, rear admiral United States navy; commandant of Washington navy yard 1861; chief of bureau of ordnance, Dahlgren gun invented; commander in-chief of Pacific squadron 1865; was mainly instrumental in the improvement of naval ordnance; born 1809, died 1870.

C. A. Hanna, Holton, Kan.:

1. Will you please inform me what the duties of secretary of State are; also, secretary of the Interior?

2. What are courts of admiralty and maritime, and who presides over thim?

1 and 2. Secretary of State is the most responsible of the cabinet officers, and is in charge of foreign affairs. He is the medium of communication, through which all foreign correspondence must pass. The name secretary of the Interior conveys the duties of the office—that of taking charge of matters of interest relating to the interior, such as all matters pertaining to government lands, their settlement, etc. 3. Admiralty or maritime courts try cases relating to the marine. United States court officers preside.

F. A. S., Stalwart, Mich.:

1. When and by whom was the cotton gin invented? 2. For what is it used? 3. State the effect on the cultivation of cotton and on the growth of slavery?

The cotton-gin is a machine used to separate the seeds of the cotton from the fiber; the saw-gin was invented by Eli Whitney, of Massachusetts, in 1793, and has superseded the old roller-gin, and greatly improved the cotton industry.

B. S., Jamestown, O.:

1. Give a statement of the religious tenets, as held by the Christian Unitarians? 2. What is Trenton Rock? 3. Pronounce the proper name Grimke?

1. Denies the Divinity of Christ, also the Holy Ghost; opposed to the doctrine of the Trinity and denies that there are three persons in the Godhead; regards Jesus as highly exalted but nevertheless a created subordinate being; believes that Christ atoned for man's sins. 2. Trenton rock is lime stone underlying the earth and is the rock from which natural gas is produced. 3. Pronounced Grim-ke (accent on the last syllable.)

At Narragansett.

Carrie—Where have you been?

Clara—I have been to the druggist's to get some medicine.

Carrie—What did you get?

Clara—Well, I got some gum-drops, and a pound of marshmallow paste, and a pot of rouge, and two sheets of fly-paper, and a glass of vanilla cream soda, and a sachet.

Carrie—Poor thing! You must have a good deal of sickness at your house.

—Our readers have doubtless often noticed that Hood's Sarsaparilla is well spoken of in the newspapers. The press is quick to recognize merit, and does not hesite to give praise where it is due. The following is from the *Baptist Weekly*, a leading religious paper:

"Advertising may bring an article prominently before the public, but no advertising can long help it if it has no real merit. Hood's Sarsaparilla is well advertised; but the best proof of its value is that so many persons use it on the recommendations of friends who have proved its peculiar virtues."

THE TROPIES OF THE WAR.

A Glance at the Captured Confederate Flags in Washington.

In walking through the immense granite pile of the State, War and Navy departments, I was taken with the curiosity to see the battle flags which have set the country in an uproar. Turning to the right from the main corridor of the building on the second floor, I entered the commodious apartments of the adjutant-general's office, and found myself confronting, at a corner desk in one of the rooms, a rather low statured man of well-fed form and placid face, with his coat off like an ordinary clerk, bending to his work, intermately mopping the heat from his forehead and signing orders. The individual looked as little as possible like kindling the memories of a great rebellion or starting the world on flame in any quarter. The heat of the day seemed allsufficient for his energies All the same, it was Gen. Drum, Adjutant General of the United States army, whose autograph on a slip of paper addressed to Mr. Cleveland, a few weeks ago, and recommending the distribution over the country of a variety of tattered bunting in the garret of the War Office, set the country by the ears and is likely to play a considerable role in a coming campaign for an American President. I had been told that Adjt.-Gen. Drum was extremely sensitive to the inquiries of visitors concerning this same bunting, any mention of the sore subject having come to act on his nerves like the flutter of certain other flags of those on a Spanish bull. I was agreeably surprised, therefore, on informing this gentleman that I should be pleased to look over the emblazonings on a Wisconsin and Hartford Department, fresh from the battle fields on which the were captured, and of my wish to again inspect them, at both with the blandest of smiles and promptly put in charge of an attendant with full instructions to aid my mission.

Carried by an elevator five stories up, under the roof of the War department, almost burning in this Washington summer weather, the key being turned by my guide in the door of an attic room, I stood, an instant later, in a little space hardly more than ten feet square, nearly within reaching distance on all sides of the sacred mementoes of the war, the very mention of which has set afire the hearts of sixty millions of people—a few rags saturated with the explosive wash of patriotism! But the first thought on seeing them in this pent-up space of lattic is of the smallness of the cause to the size of the effect. The things heaped about the floor appear at first sight only a handful, at the most, but, counted separately, there are 750 in all, over 500 of them being Confederate, and the remainder Federal flags, recaptured from their captors. One-half of the entire number are attached to their staves as they were originally taken, the flags of the two sections being stacked in separate masses against two sides of the room, facing the other half folded and protruding from pigeon holes on the opposite walls. The sight of the Stars and Stripes keeps always familiar. But the first look at the dark red heap of banners of rebellion, piled here against the side of the attic, blots out twenty-five years from the memory and brings back as if it were yesterday the red years when they waved at the head of their regiments. There is hardly a flag among them all that has not its history recorded in the book in the keeper of the archives, nearly are riddled with bullets, and many, like those carried through such battles as the Wilderness and the second Bull run, were shot literally into tatters an almost unrecognizable sprays of rag.

The contrast in the appearance of the Southern and Union standards is significant of the history of the war. The latter are rigged on clean, polished poles, and are of firm, rich material, many of them of silk, showing an abundance in the North of the fabrics of which they continued to be made. The majority of the Confederate flags are of the wretchedest shoddy bunting, miserable in color as in substance, while great numbers of them are mounted on rude unbarked gads and saplings, hastily cut from the woods on the march—recalling the blockade and the pinching days when war had fallen on a section without manufactures, the latter, especially, depending largely upon people forgot seemliness and absorbed every thought but the winning of their fight.

Many of the flags lying folded in the boxes and taken out to be exhibited by the guardian of the room recall still more vividly the narrow straits of rebellion on its last legs, from which the independent of discrimination in color and made of patches from women's dresses and underskirts of nearly every hue and material—pitiful reminders of the Spartan poverty and courage that were still to fail of their end. There are some exceptions, however, in this storeroom of battle trophies, to these moments of the sterner days of the war for the South The attendant drew from the pigeon holes of the walls and unfolded for my inspection three or four magnificent banners of heavy silk, fringed with tassels of gold and ornamented with pearses in oil and richly embroidered in gold lace. These flags represent the early and halcyon days of the Lost Cause, when they were made by local associations of ladies and presented to the military organizations which carried them. One of those flags belonged to the Apalachicola Guard, whose name is stitched in gold letters on the olive field, the exultant motto: "In God is Our Trust!" "Our Rights We Will Maintain!" The finest of them all is the banner "presented by the ladies of Norfolk to the Norfolk Light Artillery," with an oil portrait of Washington in the center of its field, the whole in the style of the flag just described. The days when the Confederate armies could afford such luxury in ensigns quickly passed away, however, as is evidenced by this collection, representing every period of the war. In the beginning of the rebellion the design of the flag carried by the Southern regiments was that of the stars and bars—two red bars and one white—changing at a later period to a red field with the Southern Cross, resembling the British Union Jack. A study of the record kept by the War Department of the name and capture of each of these flags, though a work of days, would be of intense interest to the veteran soldier. It would recall to him the episodes of triumph on half the fields of the rebellion. The sight of the flags themselves would do something more—quickening his heart-beats with memories of the great fight. That not a few of these standards have been the centers of deadly personal encounter is evident from the numerous blood-stains still traceable upon them. The staves, also, of many of them, are ragged with the gnaw of bullets, the lead in some instances piercing their centers and remaining imbedded in the wood. Everything, in fact, in the appearance of the whole collection, as it is piled here in the narrow garret, faded and soiled and tattered, shows that they are no banners of holiday parade, but have passed through the fire and extremity of actual war—the sorrowful weeds blasted and fallen from its wrath. For myself, not a soldier, but a resident of the country during the late bloody period, I recalled the stirring incidents of their presentation to the War department as they were brought straight from the fields of their capture. On one of these occasions 30 of these standards, as I remember, were carried here two days after the fight at Winchester by a delegation of soldiers whose hands had actually seized them in the fight, Custer, with his long, yellow hair, at their head. Stanton, the grim Secretary, unbent. Stanton loved results and these were the palpable evidences of triumph. Coming out of the lion's den of office he took each soldier by the hand and welcomed them as a body with a speech. As the little group stood before his door listening to his address, the captured standards held above their heads in the narrow hall of the old War department made a picturesque cloud of color, which, together with the entire scene, will not easily be forget. When the affair was over the soldiers started again for the field, and Stanton, taking Custer's arm, walked slowly down the steps of the War office. Such was his habit with any of the brilliant leaders of the war after a visit to his department.

The Beauty of Woman

is her crown of glory. But alas! how quickly does the nervous debility and chronic weakness of the sex cause the bloom of youth to pass away, sharpen the lovely features, and emaciate the rounded form! There is but one remedy which will restore the faded rose and bring back the grace of youth. It is Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription," a sovereign remedy for the diseases peculiar to females. It is one of the greatest boons ever conferred upon the human race, for it preserves that which is fairest and dearest to all mankind—the beauty and the health of woman.

Not the Weather Entirely.

"A great deal of sickness just now, doctor?"

"A great deal."

"Overwork, I suppose."

"Yes—but where there is one case of overwork there are ten cases of overeating and twenty of overdrinking."

Cure for the Deaf.

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THE FALL FAIRS.

State, County and Other Fairs in 1887.

The following list, prepared expressly for the *American Agriculturist*, will be found of interest to those who contemplate exhibiting at the coming fairs, as well as to agriculturists generally:

STATE, PROVINCIAL, ETC.		
Alabama	Montgomery	Oct. 17-23
Ann. Institute	New York	Sept. 28-Dec 3
Canadian Exposition	Toronto, Ont	Oct. 5-17
California	Sacramento	Sept. 12-24
Connecticut	Meriden	Sept. 13-16
Delaware	Dover	Sept. 26-Oct. 1
Frontenac Prov.	Kingston, Ont	Sept. 27-30
Georgia	Macon	Oct. 24-Nov. 2
Gt Central Fair	Hamilton, Ont	Sept. 29-30
Illinois	Ohary	Sept. 24-30
Illinois Fat Stock Show	Chicago	Nov. 8-18
Indiana	Indianapolis	Sept. 19-24
Iowa	Des Moines	Sept. 2-9
Kansas	Topeka	Sept. 19-24
Kentucky	Lexington	Aug. 30-Sept. 3
Nat'l Ag'l Exp'n	Kansas City	Sept. 15-Nov. 1
No. Ind. & So. Mich	Mishawaka, Ind	Sept. 13-16
Northern Wis	Oshkosh	Sept. 5-9
Maine	Lewiston	Sept. 6-9
Maryland	Easton	Sept. 19-23
Michigan	Jackson	Sept. 19-23
Minnesota	St. Paul	Sept. 9-17
Missouri	St. Louis	Oct. 3-8
Missouri Fat Stock	Kansas City	Oct. 27-Nov. 3
Montana	Helena	Aug. 22-27
Mississippi	Jackson	Oct. 10-22
Nebraska	Lincoln	Sept. 9-16
New Jersey	Waverly	Sept. 19-23
New York	Rochester	Sept. 8-14
North Carolina	Raleigh	Oct. 19-21
Ohio Centennial	Columbus	Aug. 30-Sept. 2
Ohio Northern	Fostoria	Aug. 30-Sept. 2
Omaha Exposition	Omaha, Neb	Sept. 5-10
Ontario	Ottawa	Sept. 19-24
Pennsylvania	Philadelphia	Sept. 5-17
Piedmont Exposition	Va., N. and S. C., Ga., Ala., and Tenn., held at Atlanta, Ga	Oct. 10-22
Rhode Island	Providence	Sept. 19-23
South Carolina	Columbia	Nov. 8-18
Tennessee	Nashville	Sept. 26-Oct. 1
Texas	Dallas	Oct. 20-Nov. 5
Tri-State Fair	Toledo, O	Sept. 5-10
Vermont	Burlington	Sept. 12-16
Virginia	Petersburg	Sept. 26-28
West'n Michigan	Grand Rapids	Sept. 19-23
West'n Nat. Fair	Lawrence, Kas	Sept. 5-11
West Virginia	Wheeling	Sept. 5-9
Wisconsin	Milwaukee	Sept. 12-17
Wis. Industrial	Ripon	Aug. 29-Sept. 3

OHIO.		
Adams	Winchester	Sept. 27-30
Ashtabula	Jefferson	Sept. 27-30
Athens	Athens	Sept. 28-30
Perry	New Lexington	Sept. 28-30
Brown	Georgetown	Sept. 4-7
Carroll	Carrollton	Oct. 4-6
Champaign	Urbana	Sept. 6-9
Clarke	Springfield	Aug. 22-26
Clinton	Sebina	Aug. 29-26
Clinton	Wilmington	Sept. 16-19
Cuyahoga	Chagrin Falls	Sept. 6-9
Darke	Greenville	Sept. 12-16
Defiance	Defiance	Aug. 29-Sept. 3
Delaware	Delaware	Sept. 5-10
Erie	Sandusky	Sept. 20-23
Fairfield	Lancaster	Oct. 11-15
Fayette	Washington	Aug. 23-26
Franklin	Columbus	Aug. Sept. 2
Fulton	Watsons	Sept. 20-23
Gallia	Gallipolis	Sept. 15-17
Guernsey	Washington	Sept. 28-30
Hamilton	Carthage	Sept. 16-19
Hancock	Findlay	Sept. 27-30
Harrison	Cadiz	Sept. 27-30
Henry	Napoleon	Sept. 13-16
Highland	Greenfield	Oct. 4-7
Highland	Hillsboro	Aug. 2-5
Hocking	Logan	Oct. 6-8
Holmes	Millersburg	Sept. 27-30
Huron	Norwalk	Sept. 13-16
Jefferson	Smithfield	Sept. 21-23
Knox	Palmesville	Sept. 20-23
Lawrence	Ironton	Sept. 14-16
Licking	Newark	Oct. 4-7
Licking	Har ford	Sept. 6-9
Liching	Pataskala	Aug. 23-26
Logan	Bellefontaine	Oct. 4-7
Lorain	Elyria	Sept. 27-30
Lucas	Toledo	Sept. 5-10
Mahoning	Canfield	Oct. 4-6
Marion	Marion	Oct. 11-14
Medina	Medina	Sept. 6-8
Mercer	Celina	Sept. 27-30
Miami	Troy	Sept. 4-7
Montgomery	Dayton	Sept. 27-30
Morgan	McConnellsville	Sept. 20-23
Morrow	Mt. Gilead	Oct. 4-7
Muskingum	Zanesville	Sept. 27-30
Noble	Sarahsville	Sept. 27-29
Ottawa	Port Clinton	Oct. 5-7
Paulding	Paulding	Sept. 13-16
Perry	Somerset	Oct. 18-20
Portage	Ravenna	Sept. 27-30
Preble	Eaton	Sept. 26-30
Putnam

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 1887.

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THE PROHIBITION QUESTION AND THE PROHIBITION PARTY.

A recent article in the BLADE giving our reasons for not believing in the need and utility of the third political party, has brought us a reply from a friend in Lincoln, Nebraska, taking issue with us. Our correspondent unfortunately wrote on both sides of his paper, which precludes our using the letter entire. We shall refer to one or two points he makes, however. He discusses first the fight against the saloon in his city and state. He claims that the city is under Republican control, and is ruled by whisky. We have no doubt but he speaks the truth. But this affords no reason for the establishment of a third party, that we can see. The fact merely is, on his showing, that a majority of the voters of Lincoln are in favor of Rum. To us the wise step would be, to do such missionary work as will convert them from the error of their ways. As soon as a majority of the voters are antagonistic to Rum, its control will pass away, and not before. It is easier to change a man's views on this point than it is to change his political creed. Why not take the easier and more direct road to the desired end?

The belief of any political party is the belief of the mass of its membership. Its platform is the consensus of the opinion of the voters who compose that party. Now, we repeat that it is an undisputed fact that the average voter will not leave the party with which he agrees on a number of national issues, to join a party based on one issue alone. We express no opinion on the right or wrong of the matter; we merely state the fact. To cause the Prohibition sentiment to grow, the efforts of its friends should be directed to showing the actual advantages of Prohibition, and to overcoming the arguments and objections of the Rum Power. This work is much easier if the matter is treated as one outside of politics, because then you do not run counter to the political prejudices of the men you are trying to convert, be they Republicans or Democrats.

We repeat, that the most rapid, the most thorough, the most effective Prohibition work hat has been done has been where the question has been kept out of politics. And the plea for separate political action does not represent what the third party men are really attempting. Our friend claims that the lion's share of temperance agitation is being done by the third party. The BLADE receives the leading third party papers in exchange, and must say that the above statement is a mistake. We have scanned their columns weekly for arguments against Rum, and in favor of Prohibition; but it is very rarely that we find any. Their columns are filled with arguments and pleas, directed to the building up of a political party. They curse the Republican party from Dan to Beersheba, declare it is a whisky party, and beg voters to leave it to join a third party; but they do not give any solid reason to convince an undecided voter that Rum is a curse, and that Prohibition is advantageous. This is agitation for a new political party, not an agitation for Prohibition. The BLADE has done more actual work in converting men to the advocacy of a policy of Prohibition than all the third party press of the country.

In his closing page, our friend remarks:

> There has not been a victory to dry up the rum fountain in city, town, county or state, where there has not been a hand-to-hand fight on the single proposition of Prohibition. It is the slogan of every earnest campaign against this monster; and every victory won is won by some prohibition party. Then why resist the existence of this new party, that finds itself dended sympathy only in either of the old parties?
>
> Your party is divided on the most momentous question of the ages, taking hold of a question as deep as hell and as high as heaven, its constitution factions that can not become reconciled, and therefore disintegration is inevitable.
>
> Most certainly every victory over Rum is won by "a hand-to-hand fight on the proposition of Prohibition." But, dear friend, that is jut the sort of fight we want. That is what the BLADE is urging shall be done. And that is quite a different thing from a proposition to organize a new political party. The one can be done; the other is a harder task, for reasons that we have given time and again.

As will be seen, our correspondent hopelessly confuses two entirely separate and distinct things. Because a man votes for Prohibition, it does not follow that he favors the third party. The Prohibition question is not a political one, and those who are seizing upon it to organize a political party are injuring the cause they profess to have at heart. In 1883, out of over 300,000 voters who cast affirmat ve ballots for the Prohibitory amendment in Ohio, only a few over 8,000 voted for the third-party state ticket. Other instances will readily occur to the reader, showing clearly the same fact—that there is a very large class of voters who will support Prohibition as a distinct question, but who will not enroll themselves under the banner of a separate party.

The concluding paragraph of our friend's etter touches just the root of the difficulty. He considers Prohibition "the most momentous question of the ages," etc. Well, it is a sad fact that the masses of the people don't so consider it. They put the tariff, the financial problem, the suppressed Southern vote, and half a dozen other national issues, before Prohibition. They will vote for Prohibition, but they won't leave a party whose views on those other questions coincide with their own, to vote with a party which has decided views only on the one issue of Prohibition. Hence, we say, work for Prohibition, and let the third party alone. Don't be afraid of "disintegration" of the Republican party. It is in a healthy and active condition, and has done more to advance the temperance cause in the nation than any other political agency. To fight Rum is a sufficiently formidable task, without attempting at the same time to fight the Republican party. Concentration on the one thing—the effort to achieve Prohibition, rather than an effort build up a political party, is the quickest way to

Pulverize the Rum Power.

THE Washington hotel men are mad at GROVER because he snubs delegations, and thus materially reduces the number of people coming to the city. They should not do so. Mr. CLEVELAND has too hard a task to keep the mugwumps in leash with one hand and preserve a secure tail-hold on the Democratic party with the other, to give time to delegations of citizens who have crossed half the country to pay their respects to the President of the United States. He is the only President who objected to receive his countrymen.

THE third-party Prohibition vote in Kentucy is estimated at 14,000, while the Labor vote was unexpectedly light.

SECRETARY FAIRCHILD'S OFFER.

The secretary of the Treasury has issued a circular to holders of United States bonds, giving notice that interest due on September 1 and December 1, 1887, on 4½ per cent. bonds; the interest due on October 1, 1887 and January 1, 1888, on 4 per cent. bonds; and January 1, 1888, interest on bonds issued in aid of the Pacific railroads, will be paid on and after August 15, 1887, with rebate at the rate of 2 per centum per annum on the amounts prepaid.

Notice was also given that proposals for the sale to the government of the United States 4½ per cent. bonds of 1891, acts of July 14, 1870, and January 20, 1871, to be applied to the sinking fund, will be received and opened at Washington, Wednesday, August 10, 1887, and each Wednesday thereafter.

Secretary Fairchild is quoted as saying that the second proposition if for the purpose of providing for a sinking fund, and that the anticipation of the interest was for the purpose of getting rid of the surplus funds in the treasury. The latter operation was only what any good business man would do to discount his obligations. The anticipation of interest was one of the means given to the secretary of the Treasury for disposing of the surplus funds. The interest covered by the circular amounts to $22,319,764

In the first proposition, the rebate of 2 per cent. means this: The government will advance the bondholders the interest due in six months if the bondholders will consent to a deduction of 2 per cent. per annum on the amount of interest. That is, the government will in six months have to pay 4 and 4½ per cent. on the bonds named; meanwhile, money to pay the interest will have to lie idle. The government will now pay the whole of the interest due in six months, if the holders will allow the treasury 2 per cent. per annum for it. The bondholders can make more than 2 per cent, and the government gets a slight interest on the advance.

This is good business sense, and we are glad to note that Mr. FAIRCHILD has enough independence to thiuk for himself, and put business methods in force in the conduct of treasury affairs. The theory of cutting down the revenues to the present needs of the government is foolish, because in 1891 about one-half the bonded debt of the nation becomes subject to call, and can be redeemed; to cut down the revenue now simply means to cut off the means of paying then, and therefore involves the perpetuation of the debt, with its enormous annual interest burden. What is needed is the application of the revenues to the reduction of the debt—either by anticipating the interest, buying and cancelling bonds, or some other available way, until the great bulk of the bonds become subject to call. The debt must be paid, and this should be done at the earliest possible moment.

TALMAGE—A BEAUTIFUL PORTRAIT OF A FAMOUS PREACHER.

At the request of thousands of our readers, we have had engraved a magnificent portrait of the great and world-famous pulpit orator, Rev. T. DEWITT TALMAGE, uniform in style with our other Military and Religious Heroes. The portrait is absolutely life-like, is executed in the very highest style of the art, and will be an ornament to any house. The thousands upon thousands of admirers of the great Brooklyn preacher, the greatest and most effective pulpit speaker now living, will be glad to secure this speaking likeness of the man. It has a more than passing value, for it is taken while he is yet in his prime, in the vigor and strength of his manhood, and while he is doing his most effective work. Every reader of his matchless sermons should have one. We mail them singly, post-paid, for 25 cents. For the combination with our other portraits, see announcement on fifth page, under the head of Publisher's Department.

THE strike record for the first six months of the current year shows that there were 523 strikes, involving 234,734 laborers, as against 169 strikes and 363,895 laborers in the corresponding halt of 1886. In both years the largest number of strikes took place in the transportation industries, but this year the largest number of strikers are found in the building trades. The idleness of this quarter of a million men has, of course, caused an enormous loss both to themselves and to the general business of the country. But, though statistics as to the exact amount of losses have not been compiled, these are known not to have been so large as last year, nor has the disturbance to trade and business at large been as great. It will be observed, too, that while the number of strikes has trebled this year, the number of employes engaged in them has been about a third less. This means that the large conflicts covering a wide territory which were common a year ago, have given place to an increased number of petty controversies, involving only a small number of workmen in restricted localities. The great movement has become fragmentary, tending to show that the great strike movement has reached and passed its climax, and is now on the decline.

THE beauties of reform, as exemplified by the present federal administration, are graphically illustrated in a neat little story, which has just been made public, concerning the chief of one of the divisions in the Treasury Department. This chief hails from Ohio, and not long ago he became seized and possessed of a desire to visit his former home. Now one of the lady clerks in his division is a neice of ex-Gov. BOWIE, of Maryland, who is an influential railroad magnate. The lady in question has been seeking a promotion for some time, so the chief, in the kindness of his heart and with a nude optic on the main chance, told her that if she would secure a pass from her uncle, in return he would see that she was promoted. She did not accept the proposition. The chief has been doing his best to keep the matter quiet, but without avail, as it will soon be brought to the attention of Secretary FAIRCHILD for action. It is also possible that the Civil Service commission may take an off-day and make things very lively for the pass-loving chief.

IT used to be held almost uniformly by the courts of this country and of England that when one employe was injured through the negligence of another the employer was not to be held responsible, the two being fellow-servants. There have been some variations from this doctrine in recent years, employers being held responsible by some Western courts for injuries to one employe through the negligence of another, where the two were in different grades of service, as when a railroad engineer was hurt through the negligence of a conductor. The question reached the Supreme court in 1884 and was decided by a bare majority, of which Justice WOODS was one, in favor of injured workmen. There are many other cases awaiting adjudication which involve this question; and the final establishment of the doctrine of responsibility in these "fellow-servant" cases may depend upon the view taken of it by the new judge to be ap pointed by the President.

THE Texas Prohibitionists claim that thousands of Mexicans were brought across the border to help the cause of the Rum Power. The anti-Prohibitionists must have felt their force weakening, or they would never have taken such an extreme measure to gain their point. The fight is not over yet, but will be renewed with more vim than ever two years hence.

THE KENTUCKY ELECTION.

Kentucky has been growing steadily in Republicanism. Four years ago, when J. PROCTOR KNOTT was elected governor by the Democrats, his majority was 44,434 votes. Two years later, in the Presidential year, with a total vote over 50,000 greater than in 1882 the CLEVELAND electoral ticket carried the state by only 34,839.

The figures are uncertain as yet on the late election. At this writing, if the ratio of Republican gains is kept up in the counties yet to hear from, one account declares BUCKNER will carry the state by a plurality of only about 7,000. On the other hand, Democratic authorities claim that BUCKNER will have about 20,000 over BRADLEY, his Republican opponent.

The plain fact remains that there has been an enormous increase in the Republican vote, and a corresponding decrease in the Democratic. Republicanism is steadily growing, and the enrollment of Kentucky in the Republican column in the near future is capable of mathematical demonstration.

What is the reason of this? To our thinking, it comes largely from the spread of new ideas, the dying out of the bitter animosities of the war, and the impatience of the people at Democratic theory and mismanagement. Probably somewhat is due to the spread of protection doctrines. The New York *Sun*, which is Democratic, and spoils Democratic at that, alleges this reason for the decline of Kentucky Democracy:

> Curiously enough, the period of decline in Democratic strength in Kentucky corresponds exactly with the period of activity of the free trade idea which the Hon. John G., Carlisle, of Kentucky, represents more conspicuously than any other Democratic statesman, and the *Courier-Journal*, of Louisville, more energetically than any other Democratic newspaper.

The New York *World* objects vigorously to this, but attributes it to the "lack of interest" on the part of the people. But this does not explain the progressive increase in the Republican vote, nor why the Republicans of Kentucky should be alert and active, and the Democrats uninterested and listless. The *World* is constrained to admit, in the closing paragraph of its editorial:

> But there has been a noteworthy slackening of party ties and loss of political interest. This was observed in the Congressional elections last year. It is high time for the leaders of the administration and in Congress to consider who is to blame for this.

The New York *Tribune* is inclined to think that the masses of Kentucky Democracy were disgusted because they did not get appointed to office. It says:

> Nasby, "wich is postmaster," explained the situation at "Confederate Cross Roads in Kentucky" so thoroughly years ago that the cause of Democratic losses in that state at the recent election are easy to understand.
>
> There were three or four hungry and thirsty applicants for every office. The President could appoint only one. It was therefore a painful necessity that he should offend several, with their friends, for every person he satisfied by an appointment. In the early days, when appointments were slowly made, Democratic losses were comparatively light, but of late the decapitation of Republicans has proceeded more swiftly, and the consequent disappointment of applicants has been greater and the Democratic losses become heavy.
>
> * * * There are many Democrats who were formerly Whigs, especially in Kentucky, Tennessee, the Virginias and North Carolina. These men have distrusted and feared the party which they supported, though hoping against hope that its sense of responsibility when in power would stop its mischievous agitation for free trade.
>
> But they now see the President and Speaker Carlisle waving their free-trade banner, and banishing their allies, and once more on all true Democrats to follow them in another senseless struggle for tariff reduction next winter. Is it strange that these men are also disgusted? The more sincerely they care for principle, the more irresistibly they are forced toward the Republican party.

The *Tribune* also argues that the result of the Kentucky election is a sure indication of the impending break-up of the Solid South. It says:

> Kentucky stands for 64 electoral votes at the South. Changes not at all impossible will put in Kentucky as would transfer Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee and North Carolina to the Republican column next year, and whenever the Solid South breaks up the revolution in Kentucky will complete itself.
>
> The men who sincerely believed in protection of home industry thirty years ago, and their sons who have not forgotten their teachings, have nearly reached the limit of their servitude to a destructive party. Added to these are the new men who have brought enterprise, capital and labor to the new South. When all these men begin to vote as they believe, the Solid South will be a thing of the past. But a potent force in bringing about that change is the disgust of hungry Democratic place-hunters, many of whom are disgusted for every one who gets office.

PROBABLY the last Revolutionary war pension claim that will ever be, was allowed on August 2 by the Pension office. The claimant is MRS. MARY CASEY, of Washington, Fayette county, O. Her husband, JOHN CASEY, served during the Revolution in the Virginia line. He died in 1845, at the age of 75. A few years prior he was married to MARY COX, then a girl of 16. Ten years ago MRS. CASEY filed her application for a pension, but it was pigeonholed on some slight technicality, and there it lay until a few weeks ago, when it was brought to General BLACK's attention. It was found that no valid reason existed for the delay, and by the commissioner's orders the claim was allowed as soon as the necessary papers could be filled up and signed.

THERE is a great deal of significance to the enemies of the Rum Power in the fact that the receipts from the internal revenue tax on distilled spirits for the last fiscal year show a decrease of nearly $5,000,000 from the amount of the year preceding. The statistics show that the falling off has occurred chiefly in those States where stringent restrictions upon the liquor traffic, including local option, have been adopted. It may be taken as an evidence of the effect of that policy upon the liquor trade. There is also evidence afforded of a change in the drinking habits of the people, for the much lighter tax on malt liquors yielded a revenue for the year larger by half a million dollars than for the year preceding.

IT is a fact worth remembering, that, despite the parade of Democratic financial ability, the record of the past 28 months of Democratic administration at Washington is but trifling when compared with the same time under President ARTHUR. Here are the figures:

Debt reduction, first 28 months of Cleveland's administration	$126,494,643
Debt reduction first 28 months of Arthur's administration	328,865,205

Why don't the glorifiers of Democratic management give a few comparisons like the above, for instance? "Tell the truth," as GROVER said once upon a time.

THE Democrats in Virginia will adopt a platform in favor of paying taxes in cash. This is a singular case, in which the cash payment of taxes means repudiation. By an old agreement, which all the courts have declared a binding contract, Virginia took the coupons of its bonds in payment of taxes. To refuse the coupons for taxes is to repudiate the debt.

THE Cleveland *Leader* hails ROBERT T LINCOLN as "a rising political star." It says that "he is not a rising star because he is the son of that noble martyr, but because he has proved himself honest, true and statesmanlike, and endowed with the ability to conduct national affairs in a thorough-going, competent and business-like manner."

MR. SHERMAN puts himself on record for next year after the following manly fashion:

> I certainly have no objection to Mr. Blaine, and if he is nominated I will do what I did in 1884—do all I can to secure his election.

A straightforward, honest declaration, that will make many a Republican feel far more friendly to MR. SHERMAN.

COL. LUDLOW, one of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia rides $500 horses and wears $3 gloves," all at the expense of the people. "Jeffersonian simplicity" is a great thing.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM---ITS FAILURE UNDER CLEVELAND.

At the annual convention of the Civil Service Reformers, in Newport, R. I., on Wednesday, GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS made a speech, in which he intimated that President CLEVELAND's reform record does not vary much from a spoils record, and expressed his regret that it had not been otherwise. He declared that the famous circular upon civil service reform, issued by President CLEVELAND, is a dead letter; that the implied order contained therein has been "ostentatiously and flagrantly" violated; and that, "should the defiance pass unremarked, the circular may be regarded as withdrawn."

That CLEVELAND has really modified the views he held, or at least expressed, on entering upon office, seems positively certain. Furthermore, it seems also clear that he has done this from motives of policy. He finds the masses of his party utterly and entirely opposed to anything that will not fill every office with a simon-pure Democrat. He is working for a renomination, and knows he cannot obtain it, and adhere to civil service reform. Hence the latter goes overboard.

In this connection we reproduce from a New York paper a portion of an interview with the noted HIGGINS, in which he lays down the spoils doctrine squarely:

> "Didn't you say that civil service is a fraud?" asked the reporter.
>
> "Say it," replied Higgins, "why, of course I did, and I'll say it again. Here's a man been working for the Democratic party ever since he was allowed to vote. When we get in a Democratic administration he comes up and asks for $1,000-a-year position. He is over the civil service age, 46, I believe, and can't get it. Been working for the party since was of age, and just because he is 47 years old, when a man ought to be at his best, he is ruled out.
>
> "Pass the examination? Why, of course he could. But he ain't of civil service age. He's done too much work for the party.
>
> "When a man plays cards for stakes and wins, he wants the stakes. You can't rid an election of the offices, no way you try it, and when the game's over the winning party ought to rake down the pile. Now why."

There you have it in a nutshell. The spoils doctrine, as expounded by HIGGINS, takes this ground:

First—That the sole purpose of an election is a fight for the offices. Principles are nothing, the offices everything. A campaign is like a game at cards, with the offices for the stakes.

Second—That the offices are to be given to the workers for the party. Note that the only recommendation which Mr. HIGGINS gives to his typical spoilsman is that he has "been working for the party ever since he has been of age." There is nothing said of his fitness for a position, of business qualifications, of his honesty, integrity, capacity, or any of those things which go to make up the real qualifications for an official position.

The official positions under the government have no more real connection with politics than has a clerkship in a wholesale dry goods house. The heads of departments, chiefs of bureaus, etc., should be men in sympathy with the executive, holding the same views, and hence may, with all propriety, be filled with men of the same politics and in full sympathy with the administration. The subordinates can not obtrude their views in the management of the matters intrusted to them. They are working under orders. If they don't obey, they should be discharged.

These positions should be viewed in a purely business light. A successful business man does not concern himself about the politics of his employes. What he wants, what he must have if his business is to be run economically and successfully, is, employes who are fully competent to perform their allotted tasks; men of intelligence, industry, quickness and sobriety.

There is not a scintilla of reason why the government shall not be run upon strict business principles. It might be admissible, as MR. CURTIS said in the speech referred to above, to divide the employes politically evenly between the two parties, by way of a compromise. But the rule in their selection should be the same as a business man would apply in hiring a clerk. Political work should be an objection, not a recommendation. The men who whoop 'em up in the ward and township, who haunt whisky-shops to treat the degraded portion of the voting element, are not men, as a rule, who would be valuable in any business capacity.

The doctrine that the offices are legitimate spoils must be banished entirely. The offices must be placed beyond the reach of political mutations. This will kill off the dirty breed of petty political wire-pullers, and remove one of the greatest dangers to a free government.

There is one plea put forth by the spoilsmen that has in it, under the present law, an element of truth. It is, that there would arise an office-holding class, "maintained for life in the public service." It may be said with truth, however, that, if these men do their duty they are no better off than a clerk in a store who spends his life in the service of one firm.

But there is a vulgar feeling among the masses that "the offices should go round." An amendment to the law, giving a man holding a federal appointive office a four years' tenure, (subject of course to removal for inefficiency or other good cause), and then rendering him ineligible for any appointive office for the succeeding four years, would promptly kill off the chronic office-seeking class, and would work well in other respects.

Civil service reform—the divorce of the offices from politics—has come to stay; and the party that opposes it is bound to meet with defeat finally.

SENATOR MORGAN'S free trade speeches are sharply criticized by leading journals through the South. Theories are very nice to read, but there are silent spokesmen who will answer his arguments. The smoke-stacks of many furnaces; the thousands of tons of black diamonds dug from the mines; the hundreds of miles of new railroads; the splendid cities and towns springing up in all directions; the thousands of people who are pouring in; the millions of money tendered from outside capitalists to help on the work of development, and the increased taxes paid into the state treasuries, all will speak with more force than all the logic at the command of the Senator, and with more eloquence than ever fell from his lips. This is all true, and much more might be said. Think of the home markets which these vast enterprises build up for the farmer, and the vastly increasing number of consumers brought to his very door to take the products of his farm.

CALIFORNIA bids fair to become one of the great fruit-packing countries of the world. Last year the amount put up reached 760,000 cases, and this year it is estimated that it will be at least 30 per cent larger, or nearly 1,000,000 cases. The stock of fruits there is comparatively inexhaustible, and the new plan for transportation which promises to bring them in good condition though left to mature before plucking, will enlarge the market east of the Rocky Mountains indefinitely. Especially will this prove true this year when the supply here has been reduced by the drouth to a minimum.

IT is announced from Halifax that the British war ships now in American waters will take a hand in capturing United States fishing vessels suspected of violating the provisions of the treaty of 1818. It may be remarked that, no matter how much we should like to meet force with force, we are not in a position to do anything but eat humble pie. Our newest cruiser cannot fire her guns without ripping up her decks and endangering the lives of her crew.

LAND GRANT DECISIONS.

The administration of GROVER CLEVELAND is making many grave changes in matters affecting the rights and interests of settlers and the land grant railways. It has been generally supposed, for example, that the railroads to which land had been granted took the lands that were indicated by the statutes. But this is not precisely so. The Congresses that gave the public lands to encourage the building of railroads were not regardless of the rights of settlers. Bona fide settlers, who were on the land prior to the filing of the notice and map which formally withdrew the lands, have rights which cannot be disregarded. The railroads cannot, in other words, have lands that were settled upon before notice of their withdrawal had ceased.

Two cases have been decided by the Supreme court which declare that the filing of the map and notice does not invalidate titles acquired in the sections granted to the railroad prior to such filing. The secretary of the Interior has just now made a decision which goes further than the court has gone, and which appears to conflict somewhat with the court's decisions, one of the latter holding that the filing of the notice gives the railroad title to all lands included in the grant.

A man named WOODWORTH, in 1872, settled on lands within the limits of the Northern Pacific grant. The "general route" had been filed a month before WOODWORTH located, but the map of "definite location" was not filed until 1882. In 1886 WOODWORTH sold to a man named BIVINS. In 1878 WOODWORTH's entry was cancelled by the Land office, and now Mr. LAMAR reverses the decision and gives BIVINS the title. The decision is, in effect, that the filing of the map of "definite location" in the local office is the essential condition precedent to the absolute withdrawal of lands. Bona fide settlers, under Mr. LAMAR's decision, which is based upon a statute not considered by the Supreme court, will be protected, though they may have made their entries after the filing of the general map at Washington. Actual notice seems now to be necessary, and it may be that the next decision will require the officers of the roads to serve the notice in person.

OUR PORTRAIT OF LOGAN.

Our portrait of the lamented LOGAN is finished, and being mailed. It is a splendid work of art, and will be highly prized by those who secure it.

And speaking of our series of portraits of the great generals of the late war, there is one point to which we wish to call attention. These portraits are engraved from photographs taken from life, and were furnished us by the Generals themselves, at our request, as being the view of the face and the expression they desired to be remembered by. Two, Gen. GRANT and Gen. SHERMAN, sat expressly for us, and SHERIDAN and LOGAN sent us those that they preferred.

In a very few years the BLADE portraits of the great Generals will have an increased value from this fact. They are not only works of art, but they are faithful, absolute likenesses.

We send them to any address at 25 cents each, singly, or 65 cents for the four. The five great religious heroes, the two WESLEYS, CALVIN, LUTHER and TALMAGE for 80 cents, the whole nine for $1.25. Order at once.

CHOLERA'S HOME.

The importance of a proper understanding of sanitary laws has been made very clearly evident in this country by the terrible scourging Memphis received from the yellow fever some years ago, in which she lost so large a part of her population. Perhaps it may have been less a lack of knowledge than a carelessness in respect to obedience, but in either case, the consequences were terrible.

It is now pretty thoroughly conceded that cholera is brought to both Europe and America from India, which is its constant dwelling place. It is, in fact, the home of this dreaded disease, always existing there in certain localities and always making greater or less ravages. The district where it is epidemic extends for 200 miles on each side of Calcutta, and northward to the slope of the Himalayas, but it sometimes greatly enlarges its boundaries, as it did in 1885, when it included the remainder of Bengal, and Assam and Burmah upon the East, going up the Ganges Valley into Oude and Punjab, and embracing in the West and South the whole of the Bombay and Madras presidencies. The number of deaths were thought to have reached 500,000 in that year alone.

It is no wonder that Englishmen residing in India are urging upon the Home Government the necessity of giving aid in popularizing sanitary knowledge in that country. The greatest ignorance prevails with regard to sanitary laws, and filthy habits are the rule and not the exception. Until quite recently the city of Calcutta had no drainage works and the mortality, from cholera averaged 4,000 a year. Now, that it has been thoroughly drained and the place supplied with pure water, the cholera mortality has been greatly reduced, especially in the parts of the city where improvements have been the greatest.

The prevalence of cholera there at all times endangers other countries everywhere, because of the constant communication. It therefore becomes of the greatest importance that Great Britain shall favorably respond to the request of the Englishmen mentioned before, who are intelligent enough to understand the importance of making a change in the matter.

THE people of the whole Northwest are praying for rain. The grass in the pastures is as dead as it usually is in October. The leaves are dying on many forest trees, and forest and prairie fires canopy the heavens with their smoke. The summer of 1881, which was a parallel to the present one for dryness, will be long remembered for the disastrous forest fires in Northern Michigan. All things now are in trim for a repetition of such a calamity.

THE majority against the Prohibition amendment reaches something like 100,000. It is said that, while a few prominent Democrats of the state took the lead in favoring the amendment, the masses of the party were opposed to it, and they were aided by the German vote among the Republicans, and largely by the negro element.

A PLAGUE of sudden death is raging at Nankin, China, and the mortality is fearful. Speaking of China, the fact has just been published that the total population of of the empire is now but 382,000,000, as against 413,000,000 at the last official census. There is no explanation given of the reasons for such a decline in numbers.

BY the latest Honolulu advices it seems that nothing new has occurred there since the signing of the new constitution by the king. It has been proclaimed all over the islands, much to the satisfaction of the people. The next thing is the election of members of the two Houses of Parliament.

IN a letter regarding his pleasant, friendly relations with Mr. BLAINE, Senator SHERMAN hints that the same combination of circumstances which defeated both candidates before the convention of 1880 might exist in 1888. This combination was a split in the Ohio delegation.

THERE are $340,000,000 now lying idle in the treasury, and the Democrats have not sense enough to endorse the plan of buying bonds and retiring them, thus getting this money into circulation.

DRINK TRAFFIC IN AFRICA.

The boasted civilization of this nineteenth century often seems an utter failure, especially when it comes in contact with money-getting. There were never before such large schemes for benefiting humanity, neither were there ever such extensive plans for wealth gathering and when the two oppose each other, in nine cases out of ten the last is the victor

Civilization says send missionaries to benighted Africa to try and bring its millions of people, who dwell in darkness, into the light of a Christian intelligence. Avarice steps in, and in defiance of every law and right establishes a trade in liquors there which will do more to debase and destroy than all religious teaching can elevate, it being unfortunately true that evil has more influence over the passions and appetites of the ignorant than the good.

That the liquor traffic should be allowed to have attained its present proportions in Africa to the ruin and degradation of its people is a shame to the civilized world. The miseries of the slave trade could not be greater, and indeed Sir RICHARD BURTON says with emphasis, as one who knows whereof he speaks: "It is my sincere belief that if the slave trade were revived with all its horrors, and Africa could get rid of the white man with the gunpowder and rum which he has introduced, Africa would be the gainer in happiness by the exchange." There is no doubt of it, for a thousand poor ignorant creatures will become steeped in woe and degradation by the liquor fiend to one who suffered through the slave trade.

In the July *Contemporary Review*, the well-known Canon FARRAR, of England, makes the most scorching arraignment of a civilization that permits this shameless traffic, that has ever been given, either upon moral grounds or as a great mistake in its finality so far as the prosperity in trade and commerce is concerned. It is a plea for the weak against the powerful, a strong and eloquent argument against the inhumanity that for money gain will traverse every law of compassion and morality. He fortifies his position with an array of facts that are appalling, and which should arrest the attention of every thinking human being.

The cause of temperance is gaining strength day by day in this country. The fighters of alcohol are beating it back step by step, and the blows are growing more and more powerful as the army increases. Even though the power for evil redoubles its efforts, though its appeals to the avarice and appetite grow more impassioned, they will lose their force in the face of the great moral effort that is being made and which will never yield. While this is true, it is a disgrace to all nations, to the United States as to all others, that this abomination, so eloquently denounced by Canon FARRAR, should prevail, and be allowed to grow, in Africa. The traffic can be regulated if not entirely suppressed, and in the name of humanity it should be done.

TWO IMPORTANT TEMPERANCE DOCUMENTS.

We call attention to an announcement in the Publisher's Department, fifth page, of two very important Temperance documents, which we have just issued. One is upon the result of Thirty Years of Prohibition in Maine, and the other the testimony of Ten Eminent Physicians as to the effect of Lager Beer upon the Human System. These pamphlets, by D. R. Locke, should be scattered broadcast. They should be circulated by the million. See terms and order at once.

FEDERAL POWER IN INTER-STATE TRAFFIC.

Justice BRADLEY has dissolved the injunction restraining the construction of a bridge over the Arthur Kill on Staten Island Sound, the Baltimore & Ohio thus gaining the desired entrance to New York city. This decision is one which defines the federal sovereignty more clearly, in certain respects, than has ever been done before. The decision holds that Congress has the power not only to authorize the building of a bridge over the navigable waters within a state, but that land for piers, under water and on shore, may be taken without the state's consent. This seems clear, however, without a formal decision. The power of a Congress to authorize the bridging of a navigable stream is conceded by all; the necessary land whereon to build it certainly is included in that grant of power, else the grant is nonsensical.

The decision also declares that a railroad corporation empowered by Congress to engage in inter-state traffic may do business in a state without the consent of the state. The control of inter-state commerce, vested in Congress by the constitution, is absolute. It would not be absolute if it could be exercised only with the concurrence of a state. Justice BRADLEY says:

> We think that the power of Congress is supreme over the whole subject, unimpeded and unembarrassed by state lines or state laws; that in this matter the country is one and the work to be accomplished is national, and that state interests, state jealousies and state prejudices do not require to be consulted. In matters of foreign and inter-state commerce there are no states.

This is the clearest enunciation of the power of the nation over that of the individual state that has ever been made. An appeal will be taken to the full bench of the United States Supreme Court; but the decision is in line with principles laid down previously by that body, and will undoubtedly be sustained.

THE Virginia Democrats have distinguished themselves at their recent state convention. The nation is now made fully aware of their enthusiastic devotion to President CLEVELAND, and indeed it seemed that the main object of the gathering was to declare their sentiments towards this great civil service reformer—in theory—and their determination to give his administration a hearty support. What was civil service reform to these doughty chevaliers, beside the fact that he ignores the claims of the soldiers they fought, while they promise pensions to their own disabled men? They declared in favor of a repudiation of their state debt, and in the same breath resolved to demand of Congress a large portion of government lands to make up for the loss of the state of West Virginia. Then they declared in favor of the same kind of tariff that is favored by the Republican party, in order to encourage productive interest at home, but not to foster monopolies. The document is a conglomerate one and in some respects decidedly shrewd.

THE New York Republicans, have decided to hold their state convention on the 14th of next month. What is most notable is that the arrangement has been made by a substantially unanimous voice, and that there is an unusual appearance of a harmonious effort to carry the state for the Republican ticket. With rare exceptions to the rule, New York politics are addicted to factional divisions and personal intrigues, and the years in which harmony truly prevails in either party form a lean minority indeed.

THE touching story that CLEVELAND stayed at home during the war to take care of his widowed mother is having a great run in Democratic papers at this time. Hon. LEWIS F. ALLEN, of Buffalo, Mr. CLEVELAND's uncle, who cared for him when he came to Buffalo, is authority for the statement that Mr. CLEVELAND's two brothers, who served in the army, cared for the mother instead of GROVER, who remained at home.

EVIDENCES multiply that the mugwumps are very sick of GROVER CLEVELAND.

THE AMENDMENT LOST IN TEXAS.

The telegraphic returns from the special election in Texas are as yet but scattering in their nature, but enough is learned to make it certain that the Prohibitory amendment (as well as the others) is lost by a considerable majority.

There were six constitutional amendments proposed, incinding the one for Prohibition. They were all voted on together, the tickets being "for" or "against" all of them. The first was for Prohibition. The second provided that members of the state legislature shall receive $5 per day for the first 90 days, and $2 per day for the remainder of the session; at present they receive $5 a day for only 60 days. The third amendment related to the investment of university bonds; the fourth, to taxation of unorganized counties; the fifth provided for the registration of all voters in cities of 10,000 or more inhabitants, and the sixth proposed to increase the number of Supreme court justices from three to five, and increased the salary of the Supreme and Appellate court judges from $3,550 to $3,600.

We have no means of knowing the feeling of the people regarding the last five of these propositions, but are inclined to think that they took a subordinate part in the conflict. The battle was made on the Prohibition issue, and the other five depended upon its fate for their success or failure.

The campaign has been a wonderful one. Never were the people of the State so thoroughly stirred up as they have been on this issue. The failure of the amendment is due to several things. First and foremost is the fact that the negro population seems to have been largely worked upon by the Rum Power—their ignorance making them an easy prey to falsehoods, and to specious arguments which would have no weight with the more intelligent classes; and there is also no doubt that money was used in enormous sums to corrupt the more venal among them.

The leaders of the Prohibition movement have for some time felt assured that the battle was going against them; but, undismayed and not disheartened, they fought the conflict through to a finish, for the sake of the moral effect upon the people. They already propose to renew the struggle two years hence. They have Right on their side, and in the long run it must triumph gloriously. Though this battle has been lost, the war is not over. Again and again the hosts of Prohibition will return to the attack until the victory is won. The Prohibition element now holds the balance of power in the state. It can compel a resubmission of the question, and it will do so. There will be no cessation of effort until a clear majority of the voters of Texas have decided to

Pulverize the Rum Power.

OUR FORESTS.

The topics to be considered at the session of the American Forestry Congress, which will be held at Springfield, Ill., September 14, 15 and 16, are as follows:

1. Necessity of change of policy on the part of the general government in regard to its timber domain.
2. Effects and results of forest legislation in the different states.
3. Suggestions in regard to desirable forest legislation.
4. Satus of artificial forest planting in the prairie states, and suggestions in regard to the same.
5. Methods of enlarging the effectiveness of the work of the Forestry Congress.

The constant and heavy reduction of our forest area has led all thoughtful people to recognize the importance of restoring all areas not suitable to cultivation to woodland again, and in the prairie states of largely increasing the forest area. There are less than 500,000,000 acres of primeval forest in the whole of the United States, and the annual timber consumption is over twenty billion feet. At this rate, we are using more each year than the natural rate of increase. We are wasteful of our forest riches, and we are pursuing a course that will bring on a scarcity of lumber within the period of the lives of men now living. And the destruction of our forest is slowly exerting a bad influence upon the rainfall, and hence upon our water supply and agricultural conditions. The proceedings of the Congress should be received with interest by the public.

WAGES AND THE TARIFF.

An English writer, discussing the tariff question, admits, that, notwithstanding the fact that higher wages are paid in the United States to workingmen than in England, we are supplying England and her colonies with many manufactured goods, in direct competition with English manufacturers. Some of his sentences are pregnant. For instance:

> *The average American workingman lives* 100 *per cent better* than the average workingman does in Great Britain, because he has higher wages and cheaper food in greater variety.
>
> When the United States adopt free trade, or *anything approaching it*, THE PRICE OF LABOR IN AMERICA WILL COME DOWN.

The attention of American workingmen of all classes is directed to the above admissions. And

THE NEXT CONGRESS.

Facts About the New Members—A Mixed Assembly Containing 141 New Faces—Plenty of Young and Bright Ones—Where They Were Born, Bred and Educated—Their Calling.

One of the latest things Ben: Perley Poore did before his death, writes a Washington correspondent of the New York *Sun*, was to send out to the members of the Fiftieth Congress the usual request for such biographical information about themselves as they might want to see in the Congressional Directory. Few responses were forthcoming, and Major Michael, who succeeded the veteran correspondent as editor of the Directory, was obliged to send out a second request for material. He has received sketches from all but about a dozen members—the average number that never send in their biographies, but wait for the editor to hunt them up after the session opens. The chief interest in the Directory this year is in the glimpses it gives of the New Yorkers who will step out into the fierce light that beats upon the Congressional arena.

There are 141 new members and senators. Of these 49 are lawyers, 38 have served in the legislatures of their states, and 32 are college graduates—a high average of ability, and one that bespeaks from the old members of Congress very polite consideration.

The averge age of the new members is about 45. James Phelan, of Memphis, will be the youngest man of the Fiftieth Congress. He was born Dec. 5, 1856, and will lack two days of being 31 years old the day he takes his seat. His father was a senator in the Confederate Congress from Mississippi, and young Phelan enters public life with only a boy's very faint recollections of the war period. The oldest member is Gen. Vandever, of California. He was born March 31, 1817, and will be well on in his 71st year when he takes his seat.

Judge Miles Toby Granger, of Connecticut, will also be 70 years old when he takes his seat, but he is five months younger than Gen. Vandever. Judge Granger and Governor Davis, of Minnesota, are the only LL. Ds.

Among the new men of Congress probably the most completely educated member is the youngest, Mr. Phelan. After graduating from the Kentucky Military institute he went to the university of Leipsic, Germany. There, he says, after Michaelmas, 1875, he received private instruction in Latin from Richard Sachuse, head teacher in the university. After delivering a dissertation on Philip Massinger and his plays, Mr. Phelan received the degree of doctor of philosophy and returned to Memphis, where he began to practice law in 1881. Young Phelan beat Zachary Taylor in the race for Congress.

Perhaps the member with the least schooling is Congressman Finley, of Kentucky, who says in his sketch that he began life without education sufficient to transact business, and penniless. Still he seems to have done pretty well in life, being a good lawyer, and having served several terms in the legislature and sat on the bench several years.

There are nine ex Confederates among the new members and thirteen Union soldiers. The Confederates are not Brigadiers by any means, the highest rank attained by any of them belonging to Senator Daniel, of Virginia, who was Adjutant General of Jubal Early's division. Most of the ex-Confederate members were lieutenants or captains. The highest rank attained by any of the Union soldiers was Gen. Vandever. Going into the war as a colonel, he was made a brigadier in 1862 and a major general in 1865.

An interesting fact appears in the nativity of the new members. Most of them were born in the states they represent. Conger, McDonald, of Minnesota, Kerr, of Iowa, and White, were born in Scotland. Congressman Hangen, of Wisconsin, was born in Norway. Congressman Lind, of Minnesota, was born in Sweden. Mr. Lagen, of Louisiana, and Judge Wilson, of Minnesota, were born in Ireland. Fifty-four new members were born in the states they came from. Very few carpet-baggers appear in the list. Perhaps George Vandever, of California, is best entitled to this name. He went to California from Iowa in 1884, and was elected to Congress before he had been there two years. He served in Congress two terms from Iowa before the war.

Marion Biggs, another California member, is also a carpet-bagger, but of the sort that make Bret Harte's stories so delightful. He says he is a regular Pike from Missouri, who went to the Golden Gate in the days of the Argonauts. Congressman Thompson, of California, is an interesting carpet-bagger. He was born in Virginia, and is a son of Judge R. Augustine Thompson, who was in the Thirtieth Congress, and the grandson of Philip R. Thompson, who was in the Virginia delegation to the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Congresses. Thompson went to California long before the war, and since 1860 has owned and edited the Sonoma *Democrat*. He was for several years Secretary of State. Half a dozen or more new members still live in the towns in which they were born. Among these are Senator Chandler, of Concord, N. H.; Senator Daniel, of Lynchburg, Va.; Mr. Elliott, of Beaufort, S. C., Bob Smalls' opponent; Gen. Lucas, of Charleston, W. Va.; and James Schoolcraft Sherman, of Utica.

The literary men show up well in the additions to the Fiftieth Congress. Henry Cabot Lodge says: "My business is literature." Senator Daniel alludes to the fact that he is the author of "Daniel on Negotiable Instruments." There are not many clergymen in the next Congress. Stewart, of Georgia, and McKinney, of New Hampshire, are ministers. McKinney served through the war and went through college after he was 28 years old in order to enter the ministry.

The list of editors includes Amos J. Cummings, editor of the *Evening Sun*; Mr. Carlton, of the Athens (Ga.) *Banner*; Enloe, of the Jackson *Tribune*, and Mr. Thompson, of the Sonoma (Cal.) *Democrat*.

There are, of course, many queer personal things to be found in a batch of biographies of new congressmen. One man says he married Cora Sweet on June 15, 1885, and on the same day was indorsed by his county convention as candidate for Congress. A Southern member tells the readers of the directory that his mother's name was Nancy Smith, and her father was one of the pioneers of the mountainous region in his state. It is a Southern member, also, who remembers to describe his personal appearance. He says:

> Am six feet tall, weigh 210 pounds, have soft auburn hair and blue eyes.

A Pennsylvania member tells how his grandfather was one of the Philadelphia merchants who, with Robert Morris, gave $26,000 to help Washington fit out his army. A Western Congressman says he has five children, and gives their names and ages, from which we learn that Arthur, the youngest, is one year and two months old.

There are two Mexican war veterans—Rice, of Minnesota, and Hare, of Ohio. There is one ex-Senator in the new House, Bucklew, of Pennsylvania, and two ex-governors appear in the next Congress—Senator Davis, of Minnesota, and Governor Gear, of Iowa.

Among the laboring men is Senator Blodgett, of New Jersey, who began life as an apprentice in the Amoskeag engine works; Congressman Nichols, of North Carolina, who served six years as an apprentice in a printing office; Henry Smith, of Milwaukee, who is a millwright, and was elected by the People's Labor party, and J. B. White, of Indiana, who was a calico printer in Scotland, and has been a tailor for many years in this country, although he is now a manufacturer of carriage wheels.

A Word to Early Risers.

A correspondent writes to inquire the meaning of the phrase, "Take Time by the forelock." Well, usually it means to get your work in on the combination. For Time's forelock yields—one turn to the right of opportunity and a forward push of courage. However, as a general rule, by the time the leisurely individual makes up his mind to try the combination, he discovers that old Father Time is either bald-headed or has that precious forelock of his pomaded closely to the scalp with the unguent of procrastination.

Very likely the philosopher responsible for the forelock combination was the one who originated the remark that "the early bird gets the worm." It would seem, from the way people take heed to the same, that they do not care to undergo the same affliction as the early bird. And they probably might certify this belief by adding that "some vermifuge is not vermifuge."—*Texas Siftings.*

Toothsome Terrapin.

The terrapin hunt is very primitive in its methods. To stumble along cold streams on November and December evenings is a sport invested with poetry for the few. Simply a broomstick with a nail driven through at one end is the outfit for a terrapin hunt. Yes, a pair of old-fashioned firelongs in the bargain. The patient sportsman wanders along the banks of the stream; he hits the bottom of the watery edge with the nail. If a hollow sound is emitted, he selects it at once as coming from the gentle tap on the shell of his game. With his prongs he reaches down and captures the much-coveted terrapin. This game is getting to be as scarce as gold. —*Philadelphia Times.*

Fall term of Mt. Union College, Mt. Union, O., commences Aug. 23. Send for catalogue.

IMPORTANT DISPATCHES.

Telegraphic Messages that Saved Vicksburg.

The following is a condensed account of the adventures of a Confederate, who, like many thousands of others, "had a row to hoe" for a while, and who, like those who have not since the eventful days of the late war "passed over the river," or, in soldier vernacular, "passed in his checks," occasionally takes a retrospective view of those grand and eventful times and considers it a matter of wonderment that he still walks on the earth, "a thing of life;" aye, and feeling younger and fresher than he did 27 years ago, "a boy among the boys," still pursuing avocations of life, with hope as buoyant as when he shouldered arms and marched with elastic step to the sound of "Old Tom Beach's clarinet" over the grand old hills of Vicksburg, the admiration of the lovely girls, a perfect hero in his own estimation, imagining the eyes of the world upon him in awful wonderment.

This much as an introductory. Hailing from Houston, Texas, but at the commencement of the late unpleasantness temporarily residing in Vicksburg, the enthusiasm so prevalent in the hill city over the prospect of giving the North men a trial of strength was, like other epidemics, catching, and the writer's system becoming perfectly impregnated with the disease, and not finding a remedy, allowed it to take such a hold that he at once wrote his name in a recruit list as a member of the Vicksburg Cadets, as noble a command as ever shouldered arms, and with a captain (Jesse White) a true type of the noble Southern youth of those days, who represented all that was chivalrous, honorable, fearless—in fact, "God's noblest work," a perfect gentleman.

The writer of this being at that time a sound telegraph operator—something then so rare in the South, as men of thas profession, mostly hailing from the North, sliently folded their tents and hied themselves northward on the commencement of hostilities—was at once ordered from his command, receiving instructions to report for duty in the capacity of operator, at Corinth, Miss. To describe the events of the memorable battle of Shiloh would prove a thrice told tale and only a repetition of what has been related a thousand times.

Well, we fell back, and the writer was ordered to report at once to Gen. M. L. Smith, commanding at Vicksburg, where, in a few days, up to our eyes in telegrams destined to President Davis and others in authority, with thousands of other telegrams for Vicksburg, we soon discovered that a general's war operations was no child's play, and that to be with one's command would be far preferable.

A grand old biographer, Leo S. Daniel, now master of transportation of the Macarourl railroad, running from Dosenberg to Victoria, was then manager of the Vicksburg office, and a finer or more rapid telegrapher never handled a key or wielded a pen, and he, I know, can never forget those busy and exciting days. I never think of my old partner except with the feelings of a brother.

His dear old form and face as he appeared in those days will ever be before me. He was a Samson in the lost cause. Before the war a private citizen, Dr. Horace Tibbets, living at Transylvania Landing on the Mississippi River, caused to be established a telegraph line from Vicksburg to Lake Providence. This line he built for his own private use in order that he might have the news of the day each morning telegraphed him when spending a while on his plantation each year, as was the custom of large planters.

This little line proved to be a godsend to the Confederates at Vicksburg, for as soon as the news of the investment of Memphis was received Leo Daniel was ordered to Transylvania to take charge of said wire, keeping a strict lookout for any federal boats coming down the river, as the federals would no doubt make an attack on Vicksburg. The writer was ordered across the river opposite Vicksburg, with instructions not to be absent from his post more than one hour at a time. All batteries at Vicksburg were ordered to respect my red fight at night and green flag by day when crossing the river in a skiff, which I used for the purpose of sending for supplies and forwarding any news to the general commanding.

One dark and stormy night (I shall never forget it), I had met several of the soldier boys from Houston—my old schoolmates, most of them—many long since dead, but I hope not forgotten, and, naturally, we enjoyed ourselves, causing the writer to overstay his time somewhat.

Although having on board a considerable amount of Louisiana rum, the only drink obtainable in Vicksburg, an idea took possession of me that it was very important I should be at my post at once, as something might occur, which, should it occur without my knowledge, would render a desertion of the Confederacy on my part.

The wind was blowing a hurricane and the waves of the Mississippi were fearful to gaze upon. I feared my frail craft would hardly live in such a sea, but knowing it to be all my own fault that I had been caught in such a storm on the wrong side of the river, determined me to cross at all hazards. After superhuman efforts I reached the Louisiana shore in safety. Hastily securing my horse, with a choking sensation at my throat, for excitement at neglect of my duty had rendered me almost a paralytic, I rushed into the office, and, as telegraphers say, cut in. Instantaneously I heard my old chum (Daniel) calling "v" "v" with the energy of despair. I answered "i i i—v."

His first words were, "Great God F——— sixty-nine transports and gunboats have passed since dark, and as far as the eye can reach up the river they are still coming. Rush across the river and give the alarm. I leave here, for this line will be destroyed and of no more service."

The storm had not abated, but without a thought of danger I hurried across to Washington.

A great ball was in progress, at which the general and his staff, as well as all the beauty and chivalry of the city and surrounding country, were present. The great house was a surging mass of dancers and promenaders.

Hanging on the general I walked up to him respectfully, saluting himself and lady partner. I will never forget his scowl at me, for I was thoroughly drenched, and mud from head to foot, nor will I ever forget the curious and wondering look given me by the ladies, with whom I was one of the favored beaux myself (being a dandy and a masher to my highest capacity.)

I cannot imagine what they thought of my appearance. I hadn't time to feel ashamed of my condition, or at my trampike outfit, in that magnificent throng.

As I stepped up close to the general he exclaimed, "Well, sir!" in a loud and threatening manner. I merely handed him the slip of paper upon which I had hastily written the number of boats that had passed, etc.

He glanced at it first deliberately, but in a second he drew it close to his eyes. His face paled, his brow contracted, and he exclaimed, "Where did you get this information, sir?" My only reply was, "I am stationed across the river, opposite this city, in charge of the telegraph, by your order."

CAUSE OF A TERRIBLE UNION DEFEAT.

The great crowd had pressed around us, as his remarks to me were in a very high key. He exclaimed, "Well done, sir, thank you," and turning to the crowd, exclaimed: "All officers of the army will hurry to their respective camps at once. The enemy is within a few miles of us, and may land by morning. All families wishing to leave the city will be furnished transportation by rail." In five minutes that ball was a thing of the past.

To say there was too much business for the wires that night is only superfluous. Half of the messages were never sent, and only those asking reinforcements from every part of the Confederacy were ever transmitted. The first telegram was to President Davis, apprising him of the situation.

The Long and Short of It.

"Willie Watters," said the teacher, "which is the shortest day in the year?"

"Twenty-fust of December," replied Willie, who was correct so far as the writer knows.

"And Tommy Tuff may tell us which is the longest day," said the teacher indulgently.

"Sunday!" shouted Tommy.—*Life.*

—"I cannot praise Hood's Sarsaparilla half enough," says a mother whose son, almost blind with scrofula, was cured by this medicine.

A Fishing Excursion.

"My dear girl," said a fond father to his daughter, "surely you're not going to take all those trunks to Saratoga with you?"

"Yes, papa, every one, and they are few enough."

"But what in the world have you got in 'em?"

"Bait, papa," said the dear girl, brightly. —*New York Sun.*

A Pot of Gold

Is said to exist at the foot of the rainbow. But don't chase the rainbow too far; you may get tired. Look at our offer! We will pay $75 per month and expenses to any active person, to sell our goods by sample. No peddling; no capital required. Salary paid promptly, and all expenses advanced. Sample case of goods free. No humbug. Address at once for particulars, STANDARD SILVER WARE CO., Boston, Mass.

DEADLY MACHINERY.

The Way the Honest Granger Gets Mangled In Harvest Time.

Harvest is finished. The cut of fingers and feet and right hands has been remarkably large. Let us, for a moment, while we have time, go into the field and watch the farmer as he sits on the bright red mower and drives a span of colts.

The tall, waving grass is being rapidly mown down and very soon it will become sweet-scented hay and be stowed away in the capacious mow of the barn. It would get into the capacious mow sooner if nothing happened. But something always does. The mower comes to where the grass is particularly tall and then clogs up. "There, now, dum it! that sickle is all clogged up again! Whoa, there! What ye switchin, yer tails that way for?" yells the farmer as, with a confidence in the colts which it is beautiful to see, he lays down the reins and walks around in front of the machine.

He doesn't take a piece of iron or a sharp stick to dig the tangled grass from among the knives. Why not? "S'posen them colts should start up an' ye had a screwdriver in there, it'd bust everything all to pieces! Whoa, there! stand still, I'll fix this thing!" and he goes at it with both hands. Just then a couple of bumble-bees came up out of a nest under the mower. That is enough for the colts—they are a quarter of a mile away by this time and the farmer is coming down from a twenty-foot leap straight up into the air, and is waving one hand with the bloody stumps of two fingers on it and using language that fairly wilts the grass all around in the vicinity.

And then when he goes to cutting wheat with the same colts and a self-binder he gets around in front of the machine and lets it run over him a couple of times, and gets his head into the binder and has it bound up in a sheaf of grain and all pressed out of shape, and has his finger caught in the gearing, and contributes a boot and two toes to a link belt, and finally lets the colts run the machine against a tree and smash things up generally.

Such is a hurried picture of the quiet rural life of the farmer during the happy harvest. Excitement only comes to what is left of him after the little stolen interviews with the harvesting machinery when the portable thrashing engine is brought out with a monkey-wrench and old stocking filled with stones tied to the safety-valve.

"Here, gol durn it!" he says to the hired man, "don't put so much water in that b'iler!" "But she'll blow up if you don't," expostulates the hired man. "Wy, no she won't neither—don't ye see there's a safety-valve on her. When there gets too much steam in her that valve will h'ist up, raisin' the spring an' the wash'r and that wrench an' them rocks an' 'way she goes all right. That's enough water I tell ye—now build up the fire!"

That's about all there is in it, except the explosion which comes after a little while. Farmer, hired man, boiler and stocking filled with rocks will go up together. And as we wander sadly about the vicinity after the steam has cleared away, some of the fields in the ground where the engine stood, we are all deeply impressed with what a pleasant, careless, happy time the modern agriculturist has with the improved axe costly farm machinery constantly being introduced.—*Dakota Bell.*

UNDERTAKEN BY UNDERTAKERS.

Some of the Modern Funeral Methods—Reforms and Changes.

"During the last few years," said a leading undertaker this morning, "science has been introduced in the manufacture of coffins and the conducting of funerals. For centuries the dead were buried in a crude, rough way, and in an almost heartless manner. Now death is almost welcome in order to enjoy being buried by a first-class undertaker.

"Changes and reforms are constantly going on. I suppose we will never get things down to so fine a point that the mourners will not cry at a funeral, but we have succeeded in getting rid of many of the hamper features. For instance, if ice had to be chopped it was once chopped in front of the house before the mourners. I suppose you remember the old-fashioned screw rammed down the coffin lid with a screw driver a yard long to the horror of the grief stricken family of many a condmuing story and that the screw-driver, or the screw, might, in some manner, injure the form of the lower one. Now a small thumb-screw performs that service without any show or noise.

"Formerly some member or friend of the family superintended the funeral and many were the blunders and the errors made. Now an experienced funeral director supervises the funerals of the rich and poor and saves friends all trouble and worry. Before the hour for the services the hinges of the doors are oiled to prevent any noise. Our trained employes wait upon the door in a full dress suit of black with white necktie and black gloves. It is the place of the waiters to take the hats of the wearers and put them in the carriages, thus leaving the hands unincumbered and free. In cold weather carriages are provided with hot soap stones, and matting is laid from the carriages to the grave in muddy times or if dirt heaped up around the grave, we now have evergreens and flowers around and in the grave. So rapid are the improvements that a few years more and we will have funerals perfect. We will have houses built at the graves for the mourners, and electric bells and revolvers in the graves, ready for the dead men to use in case of grave robbery."

Making Fun of the Nation's President.

A supreme indifference to conventionalities and an exalted disregard of mere matters of grammar often characterize a buoyant and jubilant nature, and it is not surprising that the enthusiastic party of cultured Missourian delegated to expend the hospitalities of St. Louis to the President should have become at times somewhat entangled in the intricacies of the English language. Therefore, every one will fully appreciate how it happened that the enormous sign hung on the cars containing the party, with letters a foot high, read as follows: "The People of Missouri Invites the President to Visit St. Louis." Some supercilious critic who is quite versed to question the propriety of the verb "invites." Then ensued a long and animated discussion which would have been nuts to Lindley Murray. A large minority valiantly contended that the "s" was all right, but when a grammatical irregularity is clearly pointed out Missourians are very quick to perceive it, and the persistent ridicule of the observers necessitated a change. A handkerchief was reluctantly pinned over the troublesome "s." The envious towns along the route were accordingly favored with this unique announcement:

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But, notwithstanding all this, the committee secured an affirmative reply from the President, and St. Louis is happy.—*N. Y. World.*

Wonderful Chimney.

A chimney only six feet high, built in common lime mortar, oscillated to an alarming degree. Consequently the chimney was loaded by putting on the top an iron plate weighing upward of 250 pounds. The cure was perfect. Although the stack is built in an exposed situation, it has stood for sixteen years, during which many severe storms have tried its strength, yet it does not show any horizontal or vertical cracks. Similar results are recorded in connection with the construction of a mill at Mullfort, near Rheydt. Here a mill-owner found it necessary to heighten a building by two stories without interrupting work in the factory below. The constant vibration caused by the machinery, however, destroyed the walls as fast as the bricks were laid. To check this effect the walls were heavily loaded with iron rails as fast as the cement would bear them, and by this means the additional height was safely reached, the vibration of the walls being completely stopped.—*Engineering.*

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At Higgins' Lake, Roscommon county, Mich., recently Mrs. Charles H. Pettit and her little daughter, aged 3 years, were boating, when the child fell into the water. The mother, in her anxiety and fright, upset the boat, and as the were alone, the chances were they would both be drowned. Such would have been the case had not their horse, an intelligent French pony, which had been turned loose to graze on the shore of the lake, come to the rescue. It swam out to them, and when they had taken secure hold of its mane, struggled back to shore, a tired but heroic pony. The animal is inclined to be balky, and he never would pull anything but a light load, but he is a prime favorite now.—*Boston Post.*

The Kind He Was.

Mr. Sissy—Ya'as, I don't deny that I am an Anglomaniac. I thought you knew that, Miss Maude.

Miss Maude—I knew you were something of a maniac, Mr. Sissy, but didn't know what kind.—*Life.*

DR. R. C. FLOWER IN Paris, France.

Special correspondence Toledo Blade:

Dr. R. C. Flower, of Boston, Mass., is one of the busiest men in all the world. He is never still and gives apparently no rest to the brain or body. To look at him one would not think he ever had a care or troubled thought, but those who know him say the opposite is the case.

He has, as almost every one knows, the largest practice of any physician in the world. Patients with all kinds of diseases, and from all parts of the world have sought him out as their only hope. In addition to this he has an exceedingly taxing outside business which must be wearing to any brain. He has made many extensive professional trips in the new world, from Hudson bay to Central America.

A few minutes before seven (7) o'clock Saturday morning, before many of the inhabitants of this busy city were astir, Dr. Flower was driven to the wharf and boarded the French steamer LaGascogne, for Paris, France, and a few minutes later she shot out from the wharf like a bird in the air.

Your correspondent saw the Doctor the evening preceeding his departure, and in answer to the question, Going to Europe? He replied, Yes, for a short trip.

For pleasure, doctor? No, sir. My business in the old country is purely professional. I have engagements in Paris and London, and while I have never been across the ocean, I feel that I shall be at home there, for I have patients all over the old world. I shall visit the principal hospitals and health institutes of Europe and possibly Asia.

I have in my mind now the establishment of a large health Sanitarium somewhere near Boston, on the coast, and one in Florida, making them so beautiful that to the most fastidious they will be paradise itself. I would engage the most noted and successful physicians in the world, and give to the sick the bright side of the dark cloud.

How long will you be abroad?

Only a few weeks. I shall prosecute my work and return to my home.

When you return home will you confine yourself to your Boston practice?

Yes, substantially so, though I will most likely make a professional trip to some of the Western and Southern states this fall. And with this the doctor excused himself.

It is said by those who ought to know, that a most tempting offer has been made the doctor to take a large health institution in Paris, that some of the heads of the government are associated with the move, and that there were strong probabilities of it being accepted. In this event America would loose one of her most distinguished physicians.

Others say that such an offer has been made, but that it is not likely that it will be accepted. If Dr. Flower should go to Paris I predict that hundreds will cross the ocean every year to see the new Parisian doctor. MORTON.

New York, Aug. 7

NINTH IRON METEORITE.

The First Direct Connection with a Star Shower.

From an illustrated paper by William Earl Hidden in the August *Century* we quote the following: There has recently come into my possession the ninth iron meteorite whose fall to the earth has been observed. It is, moreover, the first meteorite which seems to evidence a direct connection with a star shower. The mass acquires still further interest from the fact that it is presumably a fragment of the famous comet of Biela. A brief account of this celestial wanderer will interpret less the interest of the readers of the *Century*, in which magazine the essays of the astronomier Langley have recently appeared. Astronomers have waited patiently for the fall to the earth's surface, at the time of the periodical star showers of something tangible, but until now they have waited in vain. In looking over the records of astronomical literature, only one record can be found of the falling of a body to the earth at such a time; this was near Paris, on the 19th of April, 1094, when "many shooting stars were seen, and a very large one was said to have been found on the ground as a glowing stone of fire."

From the 24th to the 29th of November, 1885, the earth was passing through a train of meteors that proceeded from the constellation Andromeda, and once formed a part of Biela comet. These meteors are now known to astronomers as Andromedes or Bielids. A maximum of this shower occurred on the 27th, while it was yet broad day—light over America, and at an hour corresponding to 11 a. m. at Mazapil, Mex. Thus at the time of the fall of this meteorite, 10 hours after the maximum number of meteors was observed, the earth was meeting with only the stragglers of the train. It cannot be doubted the cosmical dust proceeding from the disintegration of Biela's comet wholly enveloped the earth, and was seen as meteors from every part of it. Such was the magnificence of the celestial phenomenon that in some parts of the Eastern continent uneducated people believed there would be no stars left in the sky. Of

THE COUNTLESS HOST OF METEONS

which crossed the earth's path on this 27th of November, only one is as yet known to have reached the earth's surface, and this fell near the village of Mazapil, in the state of Zacatecas, Mex., at about 9 o'clock in the evening. It is of the rare iron nickel variety, and weighs 10¾ pounds troy.

This meteorite was presented to me by Sr. Jose A. y Bonille, director-professor of the Zacatecas observatory, who received it, five days after its fall, from the ranchman who saw it descend from the heavens. This ranchman related the strange occurrence as follows (translated from the Spanish:)

"It was about 9 o'clock on the night of November 27 when I went out to the corral to feed certain horses; suddenly I heard a loud sizzling noise, exactly as though something red hot was being plunged into cold water, and almost instantly there followed a somewhat loud thud. At once the corral was covered with a phosphorescent light, while suspended in the air were small luminous sparks, as though from a rocket. I had not discovered from my surprise before I saw this luminous light disappear, and there remained on the ground only such a light as is made when a match is rubbed. A number of people came running toward me from the neighboring houseses, and they assisted me in quieting the horses, which had become very much excited. We all asked each other what could be the matter, and we ans are very quick to perceive it, and the persistent ridicule of the observers necessitated a change. A handkerchief was reluctantly pinned over the troublesome "s." The envious towns along the route were accordingly favored with this unique announcement:

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GAMES OF CHANCE.

How Mathematicians Figure the Chances of Winning in Throwing Dice, Tossing Coppers, Etc.

Many men have attempted to reduce betting on games of chance to some mathematical certainty, and many a man has studied out a "system" how to beat this or that game. The simplest games of chance are tossing coppers and throwing dice, the former being far the simpler of the two. In tossing a coin the chances are said to be even, for it will fall either heads up or tails up, there being but the two chances. In betting that tails, for instance, would turn up, the better might lose once, twice, three or more times in succession, but gamesters believe that there is an infallible law governing this game, whereby if played all day the coin will fall heads up as often as tails. But, of course, mathematics cannot assist you to determine after heads has turned once when it will turn again.

Some devotees have studied the thing out carefully and make the following unique computation in odd chances. The question is, how would you bet to win, betting that in every two throws heads will turn up both times? In two throws, letting H represent heads and T tails, one of the following combinations would occur: H and H, T and T, H and T, or T and H. It is evident that the chance is one out of four that any one of the combinations will appear, as there are four combinations and all equally likely to appear as another. You are betting on H and H and will have to bet $1 to $3 in order to come out even, and $1 to $4 to win anything. That H, H, H will appear the chances are 1 out of 8, and H, H, H, H, 1 out of 16.

Throwing dice is more complicated. What are the chances in two throws that any face, for instance the ace, will come up twice?

Counting up the possible combinations, as 6, 1; 7, 2; 6, 3, etc., then 5, 1; 5, 2; 5, 3, etc., you will find there are 36 cases, and in only one do you find both aces appearing, hence the chances are 1 in 36 and the odds 35 to 1.

It has also been computed, what one's chance would be in throwing three dice to have one ace appear. In three throws the chances are 91 out of 216, and in four throws 671 out of 1,296. The law does not say that if three dice be thrown 216 times an ace will appear in just 91 throws, but that if three dice are throw the more closely will the result approximate to 91 out of every 216. If any man bets you that an ace will appear each time you throw three dice, it does not mean that you will win on 125 throws out of the 216, but the longer you play the closer will your winnings be in the proportion given, 125 to your opponent's 91.

Of course there are those who will argue that such mathematical accuracy in games of chance is nonsense, and that John Smith may throw 500 times before turning up an ace, which Sam Jones, with better "luck," will throw four aces in succession. But this does not prove the law a failure, for one may throw his aces during the first of a long series of throws and the other towards the last.

That there is something in these laws is proven by mathematicians who have given the matter much attention. They go to prove by higher mathematics that the chances are so and so. Take from a deck of cards a king, queen and ace and shuffle them. What chance of an ace on top? One in three, you answer. Then what chance of an ace twice in succession? This your mathematician proves as follows:

There are nine combinations and only one has three aces. It is certain that either king, queen or ace will be drawn 1 e. ⅓x⅓=1; or certainly (⅓x⅓) 2 [squared]=1-9x4-9-4-9. How is this to be interpreted? Thus: One-ninth shows the chance that any given card will be drawn twice in succession; 4-9 shows the chance that at least one of the two draws will be that given card (i. e. shown by the product of the ⅓ and ⅔); and 4-9 shows the chances that neither draw will contain that card (i. e. the product of ⅔ by itself). The same rule will similarly show the chances of any card three times in succession, etc.

One writer in discussing the game of chance and its relation to mathematics says that it is not difficult to prove the following by mathematics. If one rules a floor with parallel equidistant lines, and takes a given stick whose length equals the distance between any two lines and tosses up the stick the whole number of throws and the number of times that it falls on or touches a line will be to each other as the circumference of a circle is to its diameter.

He claims to have once arranged these conditions on a blackboard, and, the results, tried it during his leisure hours till the total number reached 17,800 throws, and the ratio was true to four decimal places and within one of the fifth. If the law of chance holds true in so complex a case as this, how much more certainly is practice going to accord with theory in such a simple matter as throwing dice or playing cards.

HER FIRST PUBLIC BATH.

There is Now Seashore Modesty and Parlor Modesty.

There tripped down the plank walk from one of the bath-houses a slender, big-eyed Cincinnati girl, apparently 17 years old. Her eyes were brown and her hair was twisted in a knot. A young gentleman, who appeared to be her brother, accompanied her. She was taking her first dip, and the expression on her face was almost painful to look at.

She was in distress; that was clearly evident. She had clearly been reared by one of the old school mothers who had taught her that there was only one set of rules in the community as to modesty, a single set for the parlor as well as the beach. Her scanty garments kept a continuous blush on her cheeks and her face was very red. Her hands kept straying of their own accord to her skirt, as if to pull it down, when it was already down as far as it could go. As she reached the water's edge a boisterous young friend of hers and her brother rushed up and shook hands, and was as hearty in welcoming her as if he were Neptune, jr. It was pretty, but painful, to see her shrink. She wanted to get behind herself, but she couldn't. She forced a smile, but her fine eyes said all the time that she thought it was dreadful, and once more the unconscious hands strayed to the skirt that would not lengthen. Then she tried to hide herself in the surf. She went in till the cold water reached her knees. It began to creep up and around her, and she felt timid. Evidently from her expression it was not a bit nice. Then a low roller struck her heavily, and she gasped, staggered and would have fallen but for her brother's arm. That settled it. She came out half ready to cry, was abandoned by her brother at the water's edge, and in forlorn misery hastened back to the delicious seclusion of the dressing-room. Her first attempt was really painful. And yet in three days this same young lady will be bobbing up and down hilariously in the breakers, will be entirely free of care, and will sit upon the sand and let the incoming wave climb swiftly along her limbs in the prevailing and popular fashion with all the abandon of a veteran. This is the history of all such. Her husband, when she has one, may some day have cause to regret the little episode and its train of results, but then again he may not. Women are the creatures of circumstances and wives are what their husbands make them. —*Narragansett, Pa., Letter.*

He Helped the Chaplain Out.

Gen. N. P. Banks tells a story about one of his army chaplains which never fails to "bring down" the G. A. camp fires. The chaplains of the regiments during the war had charge of the mails for the regiments to which they were attached. The mail for the regiment of this particular chaplain had not come to hand for many days. Every day from one-half to two-thirds of the soldier boys filed up to the chaplain's tent with such stereotyped inquiries as these:

"Any mail yet, chaplain?"

"Have you heard from the mail?"

"Do you know when the mails will come?"

"What do you think is delaying the mail?"

The good man was so pestered with inquiries that he had no time to prepare his weekly sermon. It occurred to him that he might put an end to their troubles by a sign. Procuring the bottom of an old hard tack box he marked it with charcoal and nailed it on a tree in front of his sent so that all might see this notice:

THE CHAPLAIN DOES NOT KNOW WHEN THE MAIL WILL ARRIVE.

The next anxious inquirer who came along was a reckless young wag. He gazed for awhile at the notice, and discovering the piece of charcoal which the chaplain had dropped on the ground at the completion of the sign, he seized it and added these words:

AND HE DON'T CARE A D——N.

The chaplain took in the sign and never put out another one.

Enveloped in Five Miles of Thread.

A young lady of Austin, Nev., who has much time to spare, and who is very skillful with the needle and excels in all fancy crochet work, has made a unique dress. The material is common spool thread, white, and the entire dress is hand-crocheted work, beautifully flowered and strongly made, and about 10,000 yards of thread were used in its construction. The sleeves are crocheted in the proper shape, and are fastened in by a lock-crocheted stitch. It is a very beautiful dress, and the young lady tells us that it took her three months to complete it.

Time to Say No More.

"What's this piece called?" asked a young girl at a concert.

"It is a caprice Hongroise," replied her mamma, consulting her programme.

"Caprice Hongroise? Isn't that what brother waxes his moustache with?"

"Be quiet, do," replied mamma. "That's pomade Hongroise." And then all was silent and the concert proceeded.

A LADY'S STORY.

Sitting in the pleasant parlor of her house in Saugerties, N. Y., Mrs. Catharine A. Wigram, a lady past seventy-five years, told to the writer the following story: "I was suffering with a painful tumor, also with constipation and rheumatism, kidney trouble and dropsy. Dexter days were my lot for long, but my best physician induced me to try Dr. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy. I had not used quite a bottle before the

RHEUMATISM

in the hip and the Kidney and dropsical trouble was relieved. Considering my advanced age I am fairly well; and I am assured by my physician, and know for myself, that my recovery is honestly attributed to Dr. David Kennedy's Favorite Remedy. I know Dr. Kennedy personally, and had from the beginning all the more confidence in Favorite Remedy. Hon. Wm. E. Russell, President of the Saugerties National Bank, and Mr. Thos. B. Keeney, Cashier of the same institution, say: "We are personally acquainted with Mrs. Wigram and believe any statements she may make."

Dr. D. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy, Rondout, N. Y. All Druggists. $1; 6 for $5.

Send 2-cent stamp to Dr. Kennedy, Rondout, N. Y., for illustrated book how to cure Kidney, Liver and Blood disorders. Mention this paper.

A Cautious Officer.

The United States cruiser Atlanta set her sails early in the morning, and put out to sea for a little gun practice. As soon as she was anchored at a safe distance from the shore, so that no property could be injured by flying cannon balls, one of the officers called the bo'sun to him and asked:

"Bo'sun, have all the men put on their life preservers?"

"Yessir."

"Is your life insured?"

"It is, sir."

"Are the boats lowered?"

"They be, your woshup."

"Have the men said their prayers and made their w

The Household.

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON - - - - EDITOR.

HOME TALKS.

WHO WAS JENNIE COLLINS?

BY EMILY S. BOUTON.

"Who was Jennie Collins?"

I am glad, my young friend, that you have written to ask me this question, for every girl, and every woman in the length and breadth of this land should know who and what she was who bore that name, and who has so recently passed on to take her place among the glorified spirits that walk beyond the veil which hides eternity from our blinded vision. A grand life grandly lived; a self-denying life; a life broad in its scope; fearless in its sense of right; strong in its purposes; full of self-abnegation; ready to endure; enthusiastic in its faith in the good—when such a life as this is ended upon earth, none who believe in spiritual progress can doubt that she has simply laid off her robes of mortality to go on into a freer, higher, fuller existence somewhere beyond.

All this may be said of Jennie Collins, and yet, you will be surprised to know that she was only a poor working woman. I use the term "only" in its relative sense to this world's goods, and what is most esteemed by the great majority. She was infinitely rich in heart and intellect, rich in all those qualities which go to make up the highest type of womanhood.

"Was she beautiful?"

If you refer to her physical body, I do not know. That she was lovely in spirit is evident from all her works. That her face was radiant with the light not of earth but which comes from God's touch upon those who so faithfully do His will, you may be sure. Though I never put my eyes upon her, I am as certain as that I live to write this, however plain her features might have been, they were irradiated by the light which always shines through from the pure spirit within. There is nothing truer in this world than that every thought, good or bad, places its finger mark upon the face, and one who, like Jennie Collins, has spent her life in thinking and working for the right, in trying to help those who needed help, who was earnest, honest, generous and true—yes, I think she must have been beautiful, to the eye at least, whose vision is not all of the senses. She was no longer young in the world's sense of youth, but I believe she was eternally young in spirit.

I said she was a working woman. She began her labor for humanity, the work which gave her a national reputation, when she was supporting herself by vest making. Think of that, you who feel that you can do so little because of the narrowness of your opportunities. Before this, she worked first in a mill when she was only fourteen years old, and then later, after her health failed, because the labor was so severe, she became a nurse. She never once gave up, never stopped to discover whether it was not a cruel world that compelled her to do such grinding toil while there were those who, "like the lilies of the field, toiled not neither did they spin," and yet "who were clothed so gloriously as they?" She did not stop to complain because there were those whose lines seemed to have fallen into pleasanter places than her own, but her eyes saw only those who were worse off, and she was constantly wondering how she could give them aid. It would not seem that a poor vest maker could have done a great deal, but it is emphatically true that where there is a will, there is always a way.

Jennie Collins was fearless and outspoken in her opinions. She had the courage of her convictions, and when, as a child just before the war, she learned to hate slavery from seeing the scarred back, seamed by lashes, of a poor colored woman, an escaped slave, she never afterwards failed to express her abhorrence of the system, no matter in whose presence she might be. When the war broke out she was ready to do glorious work, and she did it. The leader of her loyal companions in the workshop, she labored for the soldiers with all her zealous soul, and persuaded them to do likewise. The story of what she accomplished is a most interesting one. The wonder was that a poor working woman should have had the brain to conceive and the strength and will to execute so many things that brought comfort to the brave men who were fighting for their country and home. She did not stop to consider—perhaps it did not occur to her—that unlike them, she had no right to citizenship in the land whose government was in danger. Her only thought was for suffering humanity, and this was what led her on to her final efforts for the working women of the land, whom she represented by right of her own fellowship in their suffering and privations.

It was after the war was over and things had settled back into the ways of peace once more. In Boston, where she lived, a series of public debates in a large hall upon social questions was begun, and Jennie Collins, who had then no thought of so prominent a work, but whose clear brain had been actively considering the wrongs of working women, was persuaded to speak for them at one of their meetings. Full of her subject, and talking from a working woman's standpoint, her impassioned eloquence carried her audience with her and made them see for the time with her eyes, thus leading the way for what came after.

You who imagine because you have passed out of your youth, that the time is passed for self-culture and preparation, take heart from this woman. She was now over 40 years of age, but spent all of her spare hours in study in order to thoroughly understand the problems with which she had to deal. Whenever she spoke, her clear logic, and earnestness commanded attention. She even became a power in politics, and entering the field for the workingman's candidate, in place of the regular nominee, he was, through her strong influence, elected.

Every cause connected with the advancement of women lay very close to her heart and challenged her efforts. Her reputation became a national one, and the poor vest-maker was honored as one of the noblest of her sex.

Of late years she has been better known by the institution which she founded than in any other way. It is called Bolfin's Bower. In the beginning it was the purpose to furnish a temporary home for working girls out of employment, but it has grown into something far more than this. It is always the case that one good accomplished opens the door for many others. The Bower has been made a field where Miss Collins has done wonders for the improvement of the working girls of Boston. There are hundreds and hundreds of busy, hopeful and helpful women, self-supporting and self-respecting, who owe their success to her large-hearted philanthropy, and who will mourn her death as that of one of their most zealous and most eager champions. At the end of seventeen years of labor in this direction she has laid down the weapons with which she fought the wrong in favor of the right and entered into the life beyond.

It is well to keep before us the picture of what this one woman did, without education except what she gained herself, dependent upon the labor of her hands for what she ate and drank and wore, and yet, through the potential force of her own brave spirit, accomplishing a work, the good of which can hardly be estimated. It should inspire the weak-hearted with hope and courage for the future, for it was because she ever held steadfast to these two forces that success crowned her efforts and made her name the synonym of good works. We may not all attain to the same heights, but we can at least always be ready and willing to "take the step nearest our feet," and take it without faltering.

Fancy Work and House Decoration.

Denim Portiere.—The material known as denim has become very popular for hangings of different kinds. It comes in dark blue and in brown. If you can paint, they will be very handsome with a border done in bright colors. Otherwise they can be etched, but the work would need to be done in heavy silks so as to stand out well. Another pretty way is to take brown holland, trace a bold and effective pattern upon it, baste upon the denim, then buttonhole around the outlines with silk. Cut away all the holland outside the pattern and in the spaces between the leaves and flowers. Other materials may be used instead of holland, and the lines may be followed after being button holed, down with tinsel. The leaves should be veined with silk or gold thread.

A very pretty effect may be produced, if the work is done neatly, by taking the French cretonne and cutting out flowers and vines, paste them on the smooth cloth in a tasteful way. The result, if well done, has the appearance of painting.—ED.

To Make Tracing Paper.—The following is given as an excellent and very simple method: Take stout white paper and moisten with benzine. This will immediately give it a clear and transparent look, upon which the pattern may be easily traced. After using lay away for a few days, and the benzine will all evaporate and the odor disappear, and you will find the design plainly traced on the paper. Then after all the benzine has disappeared take a needle and perforate all the lines, and the straight lines, put on the machine and stitch; one pattern can be used a great number of times. For the powder to stamp with, use starch and lampblack, tied up in cloth in form of a ball. For red, use line carmine; for blue, finely powdered indigo. The colors must be tied in a cloth and stamped along the perforated lines. If the cloth that is to be stamped be rubbed with a damp cloth the powder will adhere better.

Clothes Bags.—An exchange describes the following convenient arrangement. It is somewhat similar to one given in the HOUSEHOLD before: Three lengths of calico a yard long are required, one to be used for a lining between the outer pieces. Cut a slit three-eighths of a yard long lengthwise of each outside piece, commencing an eighth of a yard from the top half-way across. Bind these openings with a fancy colored braid, then lay these pieces of calico together, and baste around the edges. Two inches from the top run a row of stitching, and an inch below another. Between these slip a piece of curtain-stick about three-eighths of a yard long; fasten the ends a couple of inches from each side. To do this it will be necessary to have a small hole through each end of the stick. The bag is shirred on the stick and fastened; next bind the edges together all around and sew on loops of braid to hang it up by; one long loop fastened at each end of the stick answers for the purpose. A clothes-bag made in this way is much more convenient than the old-fashioned kind, with a string run in at the top; it is much easier to put the clothes into it; is divided into two separate parts, one of which may be used for small articles, and can be hung better against the wall or closet door. Cretonne makes very pretty ones when bound with bright red or blue braid.

Send 25 cents to Miss Emily S. Bouton, Toledo, O., and get "Fancy Work and House Decoration."—ED.

Knitting and Crocheting.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam p 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s and l, slip and lift; t o, throw thread over; b, bind; o, over; sl, slip; m, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—l, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; ch sl st, close chain stitch; d c ch, double chain stitch; picot; r c, ribbed crochet; c t st., crossed treble stitch; sh st, shell stitch; o s st, open shell stitch; t, treble; sh c, short crochet.

Dorcas Edging.—Cast on 17 stitches and knit across plain. 1st row—k 2—o—n—o—n—k 2—o—n—k 3—o—n—o 4 times—k 2. 2d row—k 3—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 4—k 2—o—n—k 3—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 2. 3d row—k 2—o—n—k 1—o—n—k 2—o—n—k 2—o—n—k 6. 4th row—k 7—p 1—k 3—p 1—k 3—p 1—k 2—p 1—k 2. 5th row—k 2—o—n—k 2—o—n—k 2—o—n—k 1—o—n—k 6. 6th row—k 7—p 1—k 2—p 1—k 3—p 1—k 3—p 1—k 2. 7th row—k 2—o—n—k 3—o—n—k 2—o—n—o—n—k 6. 8th row—Bind off 4—k 2—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 3—p 1—k 4—p 1—k 2. Repeat from first row.

Spider's Web Tidy.—In this treble means throw the thread over once.

Make a chain of twelve, join.

1. (Into chain.) Three chain, one treble, *three chain, four trebles, repeat from * four times more, three chain, two trebles, join with single stitch to the three chain at the beginning.

2. Four chain, two trebles in the three chain of last row, three chain, two trebles in the same three chain (this forms a shell), *one chain, one treble in the middle of four trebles of the last row, one chain, shell in three chain, repeat from * four times more, one chain, join to the third stitch of the chain at the beginning.

3. Six chain, shell in shell, *three chain, treble in treble of the last row, three chain, shell in shell, repeat from * four times more, three chain, join in the third stitch of chain at the beginning.

4. Seven chain, shell in shell, *four chain, treble in treble, four chain, shell in shell, repeat from * four times more, four chain, join in third stitch of chain.

5. Nine chain, shell in shell, *six chain, treble in treble, six chain, shell in shell, repeat from * four times more, six chain, join in the third stitch of the chain at the beginning.

6. Ten chain, shell in shell, *seven chain, treble in treble, seven chain, shell in shell, repeat from * four times more, seven chain, join as before.

7. Twelve chain, shell in shell, *nine chain, shell in shell, repeat from * four times more, nine chain, join.

Join any number you wish for a tidy, by sewing or crocheting together as the last row is made. Finish with fringe three or four inches deep.

These tidies are very pretty made of No 8 spool thread.

Crocheted Insertion.—Make a chain the desired length. 1st row—1 long crochet in every foundation stitch; break off thread. 2d row—(a) 6 long crochets in the first 6 stitches, 2 chain, miss 2 stitches. Repeat from (a), break off thread. 3d row—4 long crochets in the first three stitches (b), 2 chain, miss 2 stitches; 6 long crochets in the next 6 stitches. Repeat from (b), break off thread. 4th row—2 long crochets in the first 2 stitches (c), 2 chain, miss two stitches; 6 long crochets in the next six stitches. Repeat from (c), break off thread. 5th row—2 chain, miss 2 stitches (d); 6 long crochets in next 6 stitches, 2 chain, miss 2 stitches. Repeat from (d), break off thread. 6th row—Like 2d. 7th row—1 long crochet in every stitch of last row.

Correspondence.

A PLEASANT LETTER.—You kindly bade me come again, and quite a number—most of the latter—have expressed a wish to hear again from "the heart of the pine woods;" so I hope to be held free from the charge of egotism if I comply. And I must beg to be allowed to follow the example of "Meg Merriles" and answer many in one. But I have no such country to describe as she has. We've had some experience in California, and still think this "the loveliest country the sun ever shone on." We have not the California climate, fruit, or fleas. This part of the world is almost an unbroken wilderness, but our "clarins" are not all characterized by "a forlorn huddle of gray, unpainted cabins." Some of us have pleasant and pretty homes. The addition built to my own, of a large woodhouse, a storehouse and a porch, add much to comfort and convenience, especially as the first can be used as a summer dining-room, insuring delicious coolness, air and shade.

This is an open timber country—trees average about 100 feet in height—but is easily cleared, and furnishes abundance of material for houses, fences and fuel. All sorts of wild fruit flourish here and we think tame fruits will do equally well. No better vegetables can be grown than we have here. Grain does well, but corn is not a success. This is the place for a man who has but little—wants to hew out a home for himself — and has courage and patience to wait. Stock-raising pays best here. But the man who comes expecting to make a living—to say nothing of growing rich—by farming eastern fashion, will starve to death or go back to "wife's folks." Game abounds. The deer will clear a garden as effectually as a frost. Grouse and pheasant furnish the best eating in the world, as well as material for other things. The feathers are soft and fine as goose or duck. I have a "frieze" around my sitting-room composed of tails, wings, etc., and it is quaint and pretty. There is some comfort in common things; one can change around to suit oneself. I wanted to brighten a blank wall in one of my chambers. I outlined a huge, open fan, placed therein a number of pretty pictures—children's faces and flower pieces in colors, and a few steel engravings; then I took a spool of thread and "warped" a network all around and through, finishing with sprays of kilikinick vine and berries, and I had a "thing of beauty" 'til next house-cleaning time.

No, we have not yet any churches or schools, or Sunday. But I was never in a place where "Sabbath stillness" meant such absolutely perfect peace and quietness. No chiming bells, no pealing organ notes, or well rendered anthem aid us in prayer and praise. Instead we have the swelling chords given by restless winds among the pines, while bird notes furnish solo and chorus. So whether we walk "down the forest aisles" or take a brisk canter along the shady roads, we can return in good time and temper, and ready for our "ranchers" dinner of juicy roast, or platter of well-browned steaks, crisp vegetables, and berry pie, feeling small regret that we are "out of the world." Our thermometer seldom goes above 80 degrees in summer, and seldom below zero in winter. Snow usually lies on the ground about six weeks—last winter almost double that. A great deal falls, but the "chinooks" keep it down, yet it covers the grain.

Yes we have a great many Indians, but they give us no trouble. It is not them, but careless and vicious white men, whom we fear and watch. It is they who set the terrible forest fires going, endangering life and property, destroying the range, and consuming millions of feet of valuable timber. It was terrible last year. Of course no wild fruit grows for some years where it is burned off. But the flowers seem unusually abundant everywhere. For variety, beauty and sweetness they merit better description than I can give. They are very shy of surrendering their seed treasures to ruthless human hands; a touch, and they are gone. But I have secured a few seed of the ones I like best: The Lemon lily, the Chime blue bell, the Tuberose blue bell, and am watching to catch napping the "Bonny blue bells of Scotland." So many are writing asking to have Kilikinick vine sent them, it is an evergreen with, with glossy green leaves, and scarlet berries. It is not poisonous. I have eaten the berries, pheasants fatten on them, and Indians smoke the leaves when they can't get tobacco. I put up wreaths of the vine last year that are still bright and fresh. But to insure its living, it ought not to be taken up till the berries are ripe, when it can be sent anywhere if not delayed on the road. Now I hope the ladies who have so kindly offered seeds and plants in exchange, will not take it ill if I do not accept. But friends in good old Massachusetts send me seeds, and my chance of getting mail is so uncertain that I know by sad experience, plants sent me are sure only to die, if not dried up when they reach me.

I wish the lovers of pretty things could be here in Autumn! They might gather vines, ferns, immortelles and bright leaves by the tons. We have much to make life pleasant outdoors and in. But best of all, we have plenty of reading. Our bookcase is well filled; we take the BLADE, *Ladies Home Journal*, *Harpers Monthly*, *Demorest's Monthly*, and our local papers of course, and then we have plenty to do at all times. Heaven pity the woman who comes to this part of the country lacking health and energy. No matter how severe her need, help is something she cannot get for either love or money.

I hope the timely articles of "Mistress Emergency" will be read all over the land. Never were such worse needed. I have seen babies in convulsions from indigestion, who were dosed with soothing and pleasure syrup until I wondered they did not die in sheer disgust. And the parents were afraid to use so simple a remedy as hot water. I see a number of mothers ask for some remedy for constipation in little children. May I copy one I know to be good, as given by "Mrs. M E." in L. H. J. She says: "I permanently cured my little girl of costiveness by packing the back, the same as you would the lungs Take a large, soft cotton cloth and fold it to about the size of your hand, wet it in lukewarm water and place it as low down on the back as possible; to make it stay, place over this a dry cloth, folded in the same manner, then take another cloth and bind it around, beginning in front. This must be put on when the stool is wanted. The first cloth should retain all the water possible, and dry ones enough over it to keep from wetting the clothing. Keep it on until the bowels move, which will be in an hour or two."

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Thanks for the "Bluebells." The paragraph omitted which, by the way, will save you a world of trouble, was left out because one thing in it was against the rules of the paper. Of course you did not understand that. The HOUSEHOLD will be glad to hear from you again.—ED.

Inquiries.

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If any one knows what will kill flies, and will answer through the BLADE, I will be thankful. Insect powder has been tried. Last summer we had the case of a new organ nearly ruined by flies, beside the other damage and hard work they caused. Would also like to know how to clean my organ case, without injuring it. Will some one who has had experience please answer?—E. M. N.

I wish to make tomatoe wine. Will some one give a recipe in the BLADE?—J. N. WIETUS.

Have any of the members of the HOUSEHOLD used arsenic to make them white, and how is it used? I have seen a lady that used it as a wash and it made her real white, but I do not know how she prepared it.—M. M. A.

Better let arsnic alone. It is a deadly poison that will make its effects severely felt sooner or later. For a little while the complexion is very clear and white, but you will regret the day you ever began to use it, should you be so foolish.—ED.

Will not some of the readers, through the HOUSEHOLD, give me an excellent way for ironing shirts? also to make starch; how to give gloss to the shirt bosom? Do you starch the bosom on the right side or the wrong? I have never ironed much, and want a good way. Will some one who has the music to "Darling Nellie Gray" please inform me or send it to me? I would be much pleased.—Box 124, Hartsville, Ind.

A letter on "Ironing," clear and concise, would be acceptable to the HOUSEHOLD. Let it contain general directions, as well as an answer to the above.—ED.

Will the lady signing her name "E. S. H." please look over the lace in BLADE July 14, and see if there is a mistake in the 7th row.—A READER OF THE BLADE.

A young man who is a special friend of mine is about to leave this vicinity to attend college. Would it be proper for me, a young lady, to request him to write to me?

How may sumac leaves be preserved?—PENELOPE BIGELOW.

Better wait and let him ask permission to write to you.—ED.

Upon congratulating a bride and groom at a wedding or elsewhere, what should be said to the bride and what to the groom, of near relatives, new acquaintances, etc. Also, is it always necessary to excuse oneself in leaving a room a few minutes when one has company or callers?—VERY ANXIOUS.

It is not necessary to get up any set speech to bride and groom separately. As you shake hands first with one and then the other, say, "I wish you both a great deal of happiness," or "allow me to offer my congratulations," or something of that kind.

It is always necessary for the hostess to excuse herself when leaving the room.

You would do well to send $1 to the Locke Publishing Co., Toledo, O., and get "Social Etiquette."—ED.

Will some one tell me what to do for a sore ear? My little boy has had a sore in his ear for six years; very offensive discharges from it at all times.—VENA, Box 73, Lamar, Mo.

Will some one of the many readers of the BLADE give a remedy for spongy gums? There is an accumulation of tartar on the teeth under the gums which returns again down, yet it covers the grain.

Yes we have a great many Indians, but they give us no trouble. It is not them, but careless and vicious white men, whom we fear and watch. It is they who set the terrible forest fires going, endangering life and property, destroying the range, and consuming millions of feet of valuable timber. It was terrible last year. Of course no wild fruit grows for some years where it is burned off. But the flowers seem unusually abundant everywhere. For variety, beauty and sweetness they merit better description than I can give. They are very shy of surrendering their seed treasures to ruthless human hands; a touch, and they are gone. But I have secured a few seed of the ones I like best: The Lemon lily, the Chime blue bell, the Tuberose blue bell, and am watching to catch napping the "Bonny blue bells of Scotland." So many are writing asking to have Kilikinick vine sent them, it is an evergreen with, with glossy green leaves, and scarlet berries. It is not poisonous. I have eaten the berries, pheasants fatten on them, and Indians smoke the leaves when they can't get tobacco. I put up wreaths of the vine last year that are still bright and fresh. But to insure its living, it ought not to be taken up till the berries are ripe, when it can be sent anywhere if not delayed on the road. Now I hope the ladies who have so kindly offered seeds and plants in exchange, will not take it ill if I do not accept. But friends in good old Massachusetts send me seeds, and my chance of getting mail is so uncertain that I know by sad experience, plants sent me are sure only to die, if not dried up when they reach me.

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If any one knows what will kill flies, and will answer through the BLADE, I will be thankful. Insect powder has been tried. Last summer we had the case of a new organ nearly ruined by flies, beside the other damage and hard work they caused. Would also like to know how to clean my organ case, without injuring it. Will some one who has had experience please answer?—E. M. N.

I wish to make tomatoe wine. Will some one give a recipe in the BLADE?—J. N. WIETUS.

Have any of the members of the HOUSEHOLD used arsenic to make them white, and how is it used? I have seen a lady that used it as a wash and it made her real white, but I do not know how she prepared it.—M. M. A.

Better let arsnic alone. It is a deadly poison that will make its effects severely felt sooner or later. For a little while the complexion is very clear and white, but you will regret the day you ever began to use it, should you be so foolish.—ED.

Will not some of the readers, through the HOUSEHOLD, give me an excellent way for ironing shirts? also to make starch; how to give gloss to the shirt bosom? Do you starch the bosom on the right side or the wrong? I have never ironed much, and want a good way. Will some one who has the music to "Darling Nellie Gray" please inform me or send it to me? I would be much pleased.—Box 124, Hartsville, Ind.

A letter on "Ironing," clear and concise, would be acceptable to the HOUSEHOLD. Let it contain general directions, as well as an answer to the above.—ED.

Will the lady signing her name "E. S. H." please look over the lace in BLADE July 14, and see if there is a mistake in the 7th row.—A READER OF THE BLADE.

A young man who is a special friend of mine is about to leave this vicinity to attend college. Would it be proper for me, a young lady, to request him to write to me?

Our Young Folks.

BLADE TEMPERANCE LEGION.

MOTTO: "Of Ourselves We Will be Masters."

Pledge:

We do hereby promise ourselves that, from this time until we are 21 years old, we will not taste intoxicating liquors of any kind, and that we will exert all our influence to prevent their use by others. Witness our names:

OSAGE CITY (NO STATE).	NOTCH, ME.	FRYE, ME.
Jessie Colvin	Arthur Wilkins	Eugene B Goff
Nellie Colvin	Florence Wilkins	Geo B Reed
Mattie Hanslip	Minnie B Carter	Josiah A Reed
Ella Watt	Winona Carter	Ida M Bradbury
Eliza Watt	Earl A Carter	John S Reed
Pearl Packer	Clarence Carter	WAKARUSA, KAN.
Ella Lloyd	Edith M Mosher	Belle Stewart
Jennie Foster	Mabel M Wilkins	Lloyd Stewart
Sarah Voise	Geo C Wilkins	Grace Stewart
Arthur Elliott	Anna M York	Nay Stewart
Hana Meyers	Charlie Thamas	Will Stewart
Bessie Schenck	Enos C Flood	SUGAR VALLEY,
Bertha Ransom	Florence Ireland	PA.
Visa Ransom	Howard Wright	Florence A Adams
May Michel	Blanche Wilkins	M Estella Adams
Bessie Jones	FAIRBANKS, NE.	Lincoln Jadams
Minnie Bacon	Percy S Tedford	Jas G Adams
Clara Bacon	Lewis W Merrow	WEST HAVEN, NEB.
Bertie Hill	Eugene Grover	Ney Wainright
George Nicols	Lilian Keith	Nellie Worth
Clyde Hill	Arthur Keith	Nat Berwick
Roy Shafer	Hattie Morrow	YATES CENTER,
Hana Guernsey	Willie A Streeter	KAN.
Myrtle Beatty	Eddie O Brown	Helen D Paterson
Minnie Klingberg	FARRINGTON, ME.	Estella Pullat'rs'n
Bessie Goss	Fred B Ballard	Martha Paterson
Rose Penman	Annie L Gouyon	Wm W Paterson
Ruth Jones	Barthett Mayhew	WILTON, ME.
BELKNAP, MINN.	Ellery S Bangs	Edith Ames
Fred Burrill	Hukon Vinz	Edgar A Averill
Frank Lindbergh	HUKON, MINN.	Minnie B Averill
Rossmy, Mo.	Mary E Sutton	Ina May Knapp
Jennie M Cole		

Names this week, 87. Total, 24,231.

The above embraces all names received up to August 4.

PATCHES.

BY ADA C. STODDARD.

Little girl Goldie, looking up
Into the depths of the great blue "cup,"
Watches the cloudlets drifting by,
Here one and there one, and all so high.

Time goes on for a little while;
Sudden she turns with a sunny smile:
"Auntie, auntie, do you know why
There are all those patches on the sky?"

"They are clouds, my dear." But our Goldie, wise,
With the red, red cheeks and the blue, blue eyes,
Shakes her yellow curls with a laugh of glee:
"Why, auntie, you're 'staken as you can be!

"Those are the patches the angels sew
Over the holes in the sky, you know,
Where God cuts out the bits of blue
To put in a little girl's eyes for you!"

—*Good Cheer.*

HUNCHBACK MERCY.

BY PATTY WILEY.

"Look at the Goose Fish taking in sand!" whispered a school-girl to her seat-mate, with a quick glance over her shoulder to the next row of desks, where another girl, with lips apart, sat listening to the teacher, altogether unconscious of herself or of those around her. Both girls giggled, and a few moments later, when they again looked at the object of their merriment, the "Goose Fish" had left her seat, and was not to be seen.

The devil fish, or goose fish, is not uncommon along the shores of the Atlantic, and nothing more hideous swims in our harbors. It is two or three feet long, and nearly as much in width, while it is an ugly head half as big as its body. When it opens it's mouth, full of sharp, curved teeth, it shows a cavity which seems almost as large as the whole fish, as indeed it is. Hanging from it's upper jaw, close to the teeth, is a membrane curved like a hook, from which it is sometimes called the angler.

Besides being thus ugly, it is a stupid creature. It swims to the shore as the tide flows in, and then persists in staying there when the tide ebbs. Children turn it around with a long stick, and push it out into deep water; but very often it soon comes back again, and is stranded and perishes miserably.

When lying on the shore it frequently opens it's big mouth, which rude boys sometimes fill with sand and stones. When this is done, the fish brings its jaws together with a snap, but soon opens them again.

"Oh, do I look like a goose fish? Am I really so ugly looking and stupid?" thought Mercy Atkins, the little cripple.

Her quick ear had caught the cruel jest, and her sensitive nature felt the force of the comparison; and, without a thought except to get out of sight, she slipped from her seat and hastened out of the room, without even asking permission from the teacher.

Mercy was born in a large, low, but pleasant brown house in a small fishing village. It stood on a narrow point of land washed on one side by the quiet waters of the harbor, and on the other by the mighty billows of the Atlantic. The soil of the peninsula was coarse, yellow sand, which lay flat under the sun, without a hill to break the dead level surface, or a tree to cast a shadow.

Nothing grew upon it except rank straggling, beach grass; but if the soil was barren the sea was bountiful, and on the narrow point of land 40 or 50 families lived in comparative comfort and plenty. Each man owned his boat and nets, and all the year round there was a fish to catch, and a market for them not far away.

It was a Yankee village, and of course had it's school house. In this village a young woman taught the children during the summer, but in winter a man always had charge of the school; for then most of the boats were hauled up, and the boys who had spent the whole long summer in most of them eager to study navigation, in anticipation of the time when they might be "captains," at least of fishing smacks, perhaps of three-masted schooners, or even of ships.

One of the most energetic and prosperous of the villagers was Daniel Atkins, who owned the largest fishing smack of any mentioned. Large as it was, the cottage had none too many rooms for it's eleven boys and girls; but however badly it might be crowded, one room was held sacred as Mercy's chamber. This was her castle, her sole right to which was respected by every member of the family. Even other girls never hesitated to borrow each other's apparel, and the boys felt no scruple about "hooking" such of their sisters things as they coveted, but Mercy's room and possessions were never disturbed.

Poor humpback Mercy! At sixteen she was no taller than 4-year-old May, though her shoulders were as broad, and her arms as long as her mother's. Her large head was set directly upon her shoulders, while her long arms were always the sad look of a person conscious of deformity. To a stranger she was an unpleasant sight, a fact of which she was well aware, so that she invariably ran out of the room if any one from outside the village came to the house.

Those who had become accustomed to seeing her, noticed only her beautiful brown eyes and her long, silky hair, which swept the floor when loose, but was usually wound round her head in shining braids. Her friends saw only her loving, patient smile, and remembered her constant unselfish kindness and sympathy, but Mercy herself never forgot her deformity. She was strong and healthy, however, and did her full share of household labor. Indeed, for one very important kind of work, she was famous throughout the village.

During the winter, beside the windows of every kitchen hung the nets for next summer's fishing. Everybody was taught to knit them, and even the children were each employed in filling the long, wooden needles with twine. First and last all the young men and old women on the Point came in to "try needles" with Mercy, but, seated on her little cricket, she could easily outdid the most expert among them.

Fortunately, Mercy was fond of reading, as was also her father. Mrs. Atkins sometimes said, "When Mercy and father get their noses in a book, they are lost to the world." The semi-weekly mail always brought papers, and often a book could be borrowed in the neighborhood that had been read, at least two or three times over, while the almanac and the Bible were almost known by heart.

Thus the girl's life ran on quietly and uneventfully till she was about 16 years old. Then one day, seeing her father's boat coming across from the town, where he had gone with a load of mackerel, she ran down to the shore to meet him. "Mercy," said he, as they walked slowly up the soft, white sand toward the house, "I've a master plan for you. I heard all about it over t'other side, and 'tis just master; now I tell you, 'tis master."

Nevertheless, he had evidently some misgivings about it, for he hesitated to tell her what the plan was, and it was not until they had reached the shed near the house, where they kept the fishing gear and extra rigging for the little sail-boat, that he sat down to an old sail, drew Mercy close to him, and unfolded his project.

"You see, Mercy, old Parson Lothrop's son has been off to college, and knows an amazing sight, but I expect he's got more learning than money. Anyhow, he is going to start an academy over t'other side, where you can learn anything you want to. All the folks are talking about it, and I'll bet a new anchor-stock you'll beat the rest of the scholars every one."

"Yes, you will," he added, as Mercy looked up incredulous but delighted. "I done well with blue fish this summer, and mackerel bring a good price this fall. You can go just as well as not. I've been to see Aunt Maria, and you can board with her. Deacon Freeman's sail-loft is going to be fixed up for the school, and that, you know, is only a little way from her house. I talked with the parson's son, too. He's as chipper a chap as ever I saw, and won't my Mercy learn about everything, hey?"

While the father had been speaking Mercy's face had first brightened with pleasure, and then all at once had clouded as if with doubt and pain. As he finished, she said, sorrowfully, "Father I can't do it, they will look at me so."

That was exactly the thought that had been disturbing his mind ever since he convinced of the "master plan." But his heart was set upon it, and Mercy's mother and sisters, as well as all the neighbors, agreed with him. It was to good an opportunity for Mercy to lose.

For the next week the poor girl had a hard struggle. Since she was a small child, she had not been off the Point, and had seen but few strange faces, so great was her dread of being gazed at, and pointed out. At last, however, her keen desire for knowledge, and the arguments of friends, prevailed against her fears, and early in October her father carried her over to town, with her little trunk, and left her at Aunt Maria's.

It was a severe trial, the going to school on the first day, knowing that 40 boys and girls, either stealthily or boldly, were looking to see the little hunchback. But she bore it nobly, for she had said before leaving home, "I cannot help it, and I will try not to see them looking at me, no matter how much they stare. I will not remember how much I wish to catch, and a market for them not far away.

So she slipped into a seat as quickly as possible, where her form was less conspicious, and by the time the teacher had arranged the pupils into classes, and was beginning to teach one of the lessons

The Farm.

Information Wanted.

Dr. C., Tattenville: For the sprain in fetlock joint of your horse, first give him absolute rest. Remove the shoes and foment the leg for half an hour at a time three times a day for two days. This may be done by filling a bucket half full of water, pretty warm, and placing the horse's foot in it. After fomenting the foot, bandage the leg well down and wet with spirits of camphor, 1 oz.; vinegar, 4 ozs.; water, 1 pt. After the fever has been reduced, rub the following in once a day till pretty well blistered, then grease with lard or vasseline once a day until healed. After, if nas heated repeat the blister, and your horse will no doubt come out all right.

Mrs. H. F., Toma county, In.: Currants may be separated in the roots and transplanted this fall. As a usual thing, both currants and gooseberries are propagated from cuttings. Cuttings should be of ripe wood, of recent growth, taken off in the fall. The cuttings should be six inches long, cutting them smooth, just at the base of a bud. The better time to plant currant cuttings is in the fall, and gooseberries in the spring. A deep, rich soil, deeply trenched and heavily manured, is the best. There is a necessity at all times for keeping all weeds from around the currant bushes. The ground should also be kept mellow. There is but little training needed. All dead wood, and all wood that has borne for two or three years should be cut away, as well as all shoots and suckers that crowd the growth. Six, large vigorous shoots will produce more and larger fruit than double that number of weak and slender ones. The care of gooseberries is but little different than that of currants. The plants of currants or gooseberries should be set out one in rows about four feet apart, and four feet between the plants, and for market purposes these distances may be increased one half.

B. McL., Ia.: The best way to get rid of a bleeding wart on a horse is to touch it with a red hot iron.

J. T., Nebraska: For the old sore on your horses leg, mix an ounce of carbolic acid with a quart of soft water, and wash the part affected.

J. R., Colorado: We regret to say that we can not give you advice that would be of any benefit to you regarding the action of your colt. Cramps usually follow severe exertion, in which case the rubbing on of tincture of camphor, hot vinegar, etc., is excellent. In the case of your colt, in the absence of the age in your letter—whether he does any work or is yet too young—it would be difficult even to give anything like a correct opinion. The case may be one of pure nervous affection, and in this case the cause can not be definitely located. If the colt is yet young, it may outgrow the trouble.

Mrs. H. A. C., Kansas: For the obstinate sore on your pony's shoulder, if there is no deep-seated injury, it should yield to proper treatment. In case the base of the sore is deep, a personal examination would be necessary to determine the proper course to pursue. If it is a surface sore, treat as follows: Begin by fomenting the sore with pretty warm water in which there is a little salt. Foment the part well. Then dust on the sore unslacked alum. Do this in the evening and let the alum remain on all night. Next morning wash the sore with warm water and soap, after which foment as before with the warm water and soap, and again dust the sore with burnt alum. After continuing this for three days, mix an ounce of sugar of lead in a pint of water and wash the sore with it twice a day. The pony should not be worked while under treatment. If permitted to run any length of time such sores are slow to heal.

C. M. R., Kansas: A horse 18 years is subject to coughs, resulting frequently from decayed teeth, which prevents proper mastication. Examine his teeth carefully and see if they are not uneven or jagged. You must feed him food that is easily digested, as hard food causes indigestion from the fact that it has not been properly masticated. Give him this as a drench, in a pint water: Powdered aloes, two and a half drachms; bicarbonate of soda, 1 ounce. Then give every other day for a week, night and morning, a teaspoonful of saltpetre in a bran mash. Then take of citrate of iron and ammonia 6 drachm—divide into 12 powders, and give one twice a day in the drinking water, or on a mash. Be sure that his teeth receive proper attention.

J. S. W., Woodland, Ill.: We cannot say certainly, whether or not it is ringbone that is troubling your horse, but from what you say, it looks very much as if it were the first stage of ringworm. Proceed at once as follows: For two days wrap the part with cloths and keep them wet with equal parts of vinegar and water. Then rub the part affected with powdered spanish flies, one ounce; olive oil, three ounces. Digest in a water bath for three hours, and filter. Rub this well in, and in two days put on the affected part sweet oil or unsalted lard. After the blister has healed repeat it. Then if you find that the ringbone is yet growing, the part must be fired with a firing iron.

Subscriber, Anaga, Kan.: Your horse is affected with nasal gleet, which is an obstinate thing and does not yield readily to treatment. The nostrils should be examined for polypus, and if found, should be removed. The nostrils should be syringed each morning with the following: Chloride of zinc, 30 grs.; water, 2 qts. Give the animal this every night and morning, made into a ball with linseed meal: Sulphate of copper, nitre and powdered gentian, of each 1 dr. Chloride of lime should be sprinkled in the bottom of the manger, so that the horse, when eating, is constantly inhaling its odor. A fly blister upon the face, over the chambers and sinuses of the nose is beneficial.

A Farmers' Notes.

HORSE BREEDING.

Editor Blade Farm:—At the present time I believe that the raising of good colts, for sale, pays the best of any stock the farmer can raise. It costs but little more to raise a colt up to two or three years of age than it does to raise a steer to that age and the colt will sell for more than double what the steer will. The farmer may arrange his work so as to raise one or two colts every year and at the same time do his farm work with a span of mares. This has been demonstrated time and again. It is not necessary for the mare to lie idle all of the season in order to bring up a colt, as some people suppose; but of course care is to be used in working her, both before and after foaling; but a horse ought always to be carefully used anyway. I would no more trust my horses with some men than nothing at all. You should use the best sires at your command. The better stallion you use the more valuable will be your colts and therefore the more profitable to yourself.

BEE FOOLISHNESS.

Many superstitions in regard to bees are found to be senseless, by the one who has kept bees awhile and read and studied up scientific bee-keeping. Some of them are indeed amusing. It reminds me of the treatment I once saw given a sick cow; and is just about as sensible. The cow had become over heated and went in to a cold stream of water and stood until chilled. The next morning news went around the neighborhood that one of Mr. B's cows was bewitched, and as the family were frequently reporting queer happenings, we went to see the cow; and found her lying on a side hill in the pasture, just above the brook, apparently in considerable pain. The old lady had a bible, rubbing the animal, while a silver dollar (they were scarce then) was tied on to her neck, and a steel rod thrust in to the ground at the rear of the cow, while queer demands and orders were given to the witch.

NAME YOUR HOME.

I wish it were a common practice to name every rural home, even if it were a humble one; and let the name of the owner be put upon the front gate, so that we may know whose home we are passing. There are many things to recommend these practices to farmers. Think of it and act. Find some appropriate name for your home and let it be known by that name.—F. H. D., Chestnut Grove Farm.

Means of Detecting Adulteration of Flour.

The substances with which flour is most frequently adulterated are, plaster of Paris, the dust of burned bones, pea or bean meal, and potato flour.

An easy general mode (writes an expert) of testing the purity of flour is to squeeze it in the hand. The cohesiveness of flour is very great, and consequently the lump so squeezed in the hand will be a longer time before it breaks and falls if of wheaten flour than if the flour be adulterated. Plaster of Paris, dust of burned bones, and potato flour are so much heavier than wheaten flour that adulteration by them may be easily detected. A sack which will contain two hundred weight of wheat flour will hold three of potato flour so that should the flour be adulterated with any amount of potato flour it may be detected by means of its weight.

Should pea or bean meal be mixed with the flour, it may be detected, if in any considerable quantity, by pouring boiling water upon a cupful of the flour, or by toasting a piece of bread made of it, the odor of the pea or bean being sure to rise while the meal or bread is hot.

Adulteration by means of the flour of inferior grains is more difficult of detection but may be ascertained by pouring upon a spoonful of flour a little pure spirits of hartshorn. If the flour be wholly of wheat, the hartshorn will render it of a yellow color, but if it be adulterated with other grain, the hartshorn will turn it to a pale brown, and if it be adulterated with pea or bean flour, it will become a darker brown.

Adulteration by means of potato flour may be detected by means of acids. Take a spoonful and pour upon it a little nitric acid; if the flour be of wheat, it will be changed to an orange yellow; if wholly of potato flour, the color would not be altered, but the flour formed into a tenacious jelly; if, therefore, the flour be adulterated with potato flour, it will not be difficult to decide. Again, take a spoonful of the flour, and pour upon it a little muriatic acid; if the flour be of pure wheat it will be changed to a deep reddish color without odor; but if potato flour be mixed in it, it will then have an odor like that of rushes.—*The Millstone.*

Farm Notes.

Pull the beans before the pods get dry enough to split open by handling.

Several farmers around the natural gas wells in Indiana, harvested their grain by gas-light, and thus escaped the heat of the sun.

A man in California has discovered that corn cobs, dried and ground fine, make an excellent powder to pack fruit in. He has applied for a patent.

Farmers in Flint township, Genesee county, Mich., complain that English sparrows have almost destroyed the wheat crop.

A generous feed of corn in the evening will induce the turkeys and ducks to come home to roost. Let them go off in the morning with a light breakfast.

The stomach of the plant is the soil. Here the food is dissolved and prepared, if not digested, for absorption by the absorbent vessels of the rootlets, which collect and convey it into the general circulation of the plant.

There are now at least 100,000 families in Dakota; to keep them warm and cook their food will require an outlay of at least $600 to each family, or $60,000,000 for fuel alone, which is nearly one-third of her entire wheat crop in 1886.

Mr. Thomas Armstrong, of Milton, Ind., has harvested and threshed 56 bushels of wheat from one bushel and one peck sowing. This wheat was drilled on two acres of land, being one-half bushel and one-half peck to the acre.

Learn the art to be preferred above all others, of being happy when alone—which consists in the encouragement of good hopes and rational pursuits, in leading an industrious life, and in having constantly before you some object of attainment.

Fields of grain stubble, where a crop of weeds is going to seed, may be benefited by plowing now and sowing turnips to keep the soil shaded, and if the roots are not worth harvesting, let the sheep or calves eat them on the ground this fall.

Water, when filtered, that stands in a metal tank or silver pitcher, without porcelain lining, is dangerous to drink, from the metalic salts it dissolves. Water that stands uncovered in any living or sleeping room is no longer pure, for it absolves very quickly whatever is deleterious in the air.

The kind of food best adapted to milk production are the best of manure. One hundred dollars worth of cheese takes from the farm less than one-seventh the fertility taken by $100 worth of grain, while $100 worth of butter—if the skimmilk is fed on the farm—takes nothing from the soil.

There are not a few houses in which pen, paper and ink are so rarely used that when wanted they are scarcely to be found, and if found, the paper is yellow, the ink pale and the pen rusty. A place should be provided for them.

Every member of the family should be encouraged to use them.

All seeds must be carefully cured before storing, and even then should not be closely packed into bags. Choose a bag considerably larger than one would think would be needed for the amount of seeds. Label it plainly with the name of the flower so there need be no guesswork as to its contents.

The acreage of wheat in Manitoba has increased from 20 to 25 per cent. this year, and the crop from present prospects will be a good one. The farmers expect to have about 30,000,000 bushels of wheat for export this fall, and if prices are even at a moderate figure, a good profit for their labor will be realized.

If the calves and pigs were compelled to forage for a living, like the hens, they would soon become a nuisance, and fail to pay, yet the hen is sometimes expected to lay under the most adverse condition. If she is to pay a profit she must receive the attention necessary to enable her to perform all that may be required of her.

CONDITION OF THE CROPS.

Report of the Farmers Review and the Signal Office for the Past Week.

Chicago, Aug. 8.—The crop summary of the *Farmers Review* is as follows: The corn crop has materially suffered throughout the west from the long continued drouth. Local rains have fallen in many localities, but it is questionable whether the damage to the crop can be compared. The crop in many portions of the west is in a most lamentable condition, and Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa, Missouri, Ohio, Minnesota and Dakota have suffered less than other states. The winter wheat yield in different states is as follows: Fifteen counties in Illinois, 18¾ bushels; Wisconsin counties, 11 2-5 bushels; Michigan counties, 14 bushels; twelve Indiana counties 15¾ bushels; ten Ohio counties, 14½ bushels; eleven Missouri counties, 20 bushels; eleven Kansas counties, 10 bushels.

The average yield of oats in the different states is as follows: Thirteen counties in Illinois, 35 bushels; six counties in Wisconsin, 24½ bushels; Michigan counties, 33 bushels; 14 Indiana counties, 36 bushels; 12 Ohio counties, 34 bushels; 11 Missouri counties, 34 3-5 bushels; 13 Kansas counties, 24 bushels; 16 Iowa counties, 34 bushels; 13 Minnesota counties, 35 bushels; 9 Nebraska counties, 33 bushels; and Dakota counties report a good yield. The average condition of corn crop as reported from different states is: Seventeen counties in Illinois 51 per cent. Much damage by drouth and bugs generally throughout the state. The damage by drouth and insects has not been quite so severe in Wisconsin. Fourtesn counties in Indiana report 54 per cent. damage by drouth in general.

Washington, Aug. 8.—Weather crop bulletin of the signal office: Temperature—Weather warmer than usual is reported throughout the agricenltural districts east os the Rocky Mountains, but in the cotton regions and stations on the immediate Atlantic and Gulf coasts about the normal temperature prevailed. In the Mississippi and Ohio valleys, the southern portion of the lake region, and Pennsylvania and New York the average temperature was about 5° above the normal.

This excess of temperature has been augmented during the past four weeks, and in the sections above named the average daily temperature during that period was from four to five degrees above the normal, while in the Gulf states, Northern New England and the Pacific coast it has been slightly cooler than usual during the past month.

During the season from January 1 to August 5 it has been slightly warmer than usual in the central valleys, from Southern New England and New Jersey westward over the lake region; but it has been slightly cooler than usual on the South Atlantic, gulf coasts, Northern New England and near Lake Superior.

Rainfall—The drouth continues in states north of the Ohio valley, but there has been an excess of rain during the past throughout cotton and tobacco regions and in the interior of New York and Pennsylvania; also in the Missouri valley.

Numerous showers occurred in Iowa, Minnesota, Dakota and near Lake Superior. During the past four weeks a large deficiency in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa and southern portions of Wisconsin and Michigan has increased. The drouth in this section has proved decidedly injurious to growing crops.

General remarks—Reports for week ending August 6 indicate that the weather has been favorable in the western portion of the cotton region, from central Alabama to Texas; but from Alabama eastward rain has been greatly in excess, probably resulting in injury to growing cotton in the low lands.

Numerous showers occurred in Minnesota, Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Northwestern Missouri and Northern Kansas, improving the condition of growing crops in those sections. But the drouth continues in the corn states east of the Mississippi, resulting in a serious injury to all growing crops.

The weather in the New England and middle Atlantic states is generally reported unfavorable, the wet weather retarding the harvest and injuring grain, hay and potatoes near the coast, while the conditions are reported as favorable for corn in these districts. The excess of sunshine and temperature, combined with a slight excess of rainfall in Kentucky and Tennessee during the past week has probably improved the condition of the tobacco crop.

France has seized all the New York *Heralds* of July 14, on sale in Paris, containing the famous Boulanger march.

DR. TALMAGE ON INSURANCE.

How God Organized an Insurance Company in Egypt With Joseph at Its Head.

The Hamptons, Aug. 7.—The Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage's sermon for to-day was on the important subject of "Life and Fire Insurance: the Christian Principles involved." His text was: "Let him appoint officers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven plenteous years."—Genesis xli, v 34.

These were the words of Joseph, the president of the first life insurance company that the world ever saw. Pharaoh had a dream that distracted him. He thought he stood on the bank of the river Nile, and saw coming out of the river seven fat, sleek, glossy cows, and they began to browse in the thick grass. Nothing frightful about that. But after them, coming out of the same river, he saw seven cows that were gaunt and starved, and the worst-looking cows that had ever been seen in the land, and in the ferocity of hunger they devoured their seven fat predecessors. Pharaoh, the king, sent for Joseph to decipher these midnight hieroglopics. Joseph made short work of it, and intimated the seven fat cows that came out of the river are seven years with plenty to eat; the seven emaciated cows that followed them are seven years with nothing to eat. "Now" said Joseph, "let us take one-fifth of the seven prosperous years, and keep as a provision for the seven years in which there shall be no corn crop." The king took the counsel and appointed Joseph, because of his integrity or public spiritedness, as the president of the undertaking. The farmers paid one-fifth of their income as a premium. In all the towns and cities of the land there were branch houses. This great Egyptian Life Insurance company had millions of dollars as assets. After awhile the dark days came and the whole nation would have starved if it had not been for the provision they had made for the future. But now these suffering families had nothing to do but go up and collect the amount of their life policies. The Bible puts it in one short phrase: "In all the land of Egypt there was bread." I say this was the first life insurance company. It was divinely organized. It had in it all the advantages of the "whole system plan," of the "graded plan," of the "reserve endowment plan," and all the other good plans. We are told that Rev. Dr. Anhate, of Lincolnshire, Eng., originated the first life insurance company in 1698. No! it is as old as the corn cribs of Egypt; and God himself was the author and originator. If that were not so I would not take your time and mine in Sabbath discussion of this subject. I feel it is a theme vital, religious, and of infinite import, the morals of life and fire insurance.

About ten or twelve years ago there was a great panic in life insurance which did good. Under the storm the untrustworthy and bogus institutions were scattered, while the genuine were tested and firmly established, and where does the life insurance institution stand to-day? What amount of comfort, of education, of moral and spiritual advantage is represented in the simple statistic that in this country the life insurance companies in one year paid $7,000,000 to the families of the bereft; and in five years they paid $30,000,000 to the families of the bereft; and are promising to pay—and hold themselves in readiness to pay—$2,000,000,000 to the families of the bereft!

They have actually paid out more in dividends and death claims than they have ever received in premiums. I know of what I speak. The life insurance companies of this country paid more than $7,000,000 of taxes to the government in five years. So instead of the policy holders being indebted to the land, the land is indebted to them. To cry out against life insurance because here and there one company has behaved badly is as absurd as it would be for a man to burn down a thousand acres of harvest field in order to kill the moles and potato bugs, as preposterous as a man who has blown up a crowded steamer in mid-Atlantic for the purpose of destroying the barnacles on the bottom of the hulk.

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REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Cholera has broken out in Naples.

Reports of cholera in Mexico denied.

Thursday's rain insures the safety of Kansas crops.

Queen Kapiolani arrived at Honolulu July 26 and was given a royal welcome.

The Pope appointed a commission to take an active part in the approaching Italian elections.

The English railway strike has collapsed. The Birmingham engineers have returned to work.

Railroads centering at Pittsburg have more freight offering than they have cars to carry it.

It is reported in Paris that the Rennes army corps has been selected for the mobilization experiment.

The execution of Maxwell, the St. Louis trunk murderer, is delayed by an appeal to the United States Supreme court.

The king of Abyssinia has offered to release Maj. Samorous, his Italian prisoner, on the payment of a ransom of $100,000.

Thirty-eight French railroad employes residing at Avricourt, near the frontier of Germany, have been expelled from the country.

Owing to the great scarcity of harvest hands in Northern Minnesota it is predicted that many fields of grain will be badly damaged.

There have been five cases of cholera and one death at Malta. Ten days' quarantine against that place have been established at Gibraltar.

No land league meetings have been held in Ireland for the past two Sundays, as the Parnellites are trying to avoid giving the government an excuse to proclaim the league.

Sunday's cholera returns from Rome:—106 new cases; 48 deaths; 64 deaths in Catania during the month of July. The government has forbidden the holding of public festivals.

The verdict in the boodle case at Chicago was "all guilty." Seven of the eleven got two years each, but Commissioners McCarthy, Oliver, Casselman and Geils escaped with a fine of $1,000.

The returns issued by the London board of trade show that the imports during the month of July decreased £430,000 compared with July last year, and that the exports increased £700,000 compared with July, 1886.

Applications received at the Treasury department to date for the prepayment of interest on registered bonds are: Four per cents., $2,468,250; 4½ per cents., $2,715,000; Pacific railway 6s, $800,000; total, $5,271,250.

Miss Clara Barton, president of the national association of the Red Cross, Dr. J. B. Hubbell and Gen. Field have been appointed by the President as delegates to the fourth international conference to be held in Germany in September.

The fire loss in the United States and Canada for July was $14,026,500, against $10,000,000 in 1886 and $9,000,000 in 1885. The total for the first seven months was $76,928,100, against $63,500,000 for the corresponding period of 1886.

Close estimates as to losses of the bull wheat clique at San Francisco by the collapse of the "corner" make them between $5,000,000 and $6,000,000, in addition to which the clique is still holding and saying storage on enormous quantities of wheat.

The imports of dry goods at the port of New York, last week, amounted to $2,598,339, of which $1,852,343 were entered for consumption and $745,496 were housed. The amount withdrawn from the warehouses for the week was $627,167, making a total thrown on the market of $2,480,010.

Complete returns received by the Galveston *News* from 241 voting precincts in this state, including all the larger cities and places convenient to telegraphic transmission, and a few complete county returns, indicate that the amendment has been defeated in the whole state by over 125,000 votes.

Senator John Sherman, of Ohio; Gen. J. S. Robinson, secretary of state of Ohio; Col. Chas. H. Grosvenor, member of Congress; Amos Townsend, ex-member of Congress; Judge A. Thompson, of Portsmouth, O.; W. B. Scarth, M. P. Toronto; Mayor Boomer, of Ottawa, Ont., are at Winnepeg on their way to British Columbia.

The differences between the American Bell and the Erie telephone companies in Lowell has been adjusted. The American bell grants the Erie company permission to put its northwestern division on a basis of 30 per cent. interest in that section and the American Bell company waiving all participation in dividends until January 1, 1890, when the present contract expires.

Secretary Fairchild has received several communications from holders of United States bonds, announcing the acceptance of the terms of the circular of the 3d inst. for the prepayment of six month's interest on the public debt with a 2 per cent. rebate on or after the 15th inst. Applications already filed are for interest bonds to the amount of $331,000.

Miss Josie Holmes, late exchange clerk of the Fidelity National Bank, who has been in jail in default of bail in the sum of $10,000, on a charge of aiding and abetting E. L. Larper in committing offenses against the national banking law, was released upon her own recognizance upon recommendation of District Attorney Burnet. It is understood that Miss Holmes has at last agreed to give the government the advantage of her knowledge of the inside workings of the Fidelity National Bank.

PRETTY PHOEBE WOODMAN.

She Wondered Mysteriously From Her Cultured Home to East Saginaw.

DANVERS, Mass., Aug. 6.—[Special wire.]—The unexplained disappearance of Phoebe Woodman, the accomplished and beautiful daughter of the poet Whittier's cousin, Mrs. C. C. Woodman, who lives with her distinguished relative at Oak Knoll, a beautiful country seat in Danvers, has been the chief topic here for several days. The motive which prompted her disappearance is a mystery. Although an adopted daughter, Miss Phoebe was the idol of the family and was especially loved by Mr. Whittier, who entertained for her the affection of a father.

It was while the poet was spending a brief vacation in the New Hampshire hills that some circumstance caused the girl to break the associations which for over twelve years have bound her to more than friends, and start for the far west, leaving no trace of her whereabouts, and so far as can be learned, negligible cause for her act. On the afternoon of July 28, her horse, tied to a tree, was found standing in a grove near the railway station.

Close at hand was a riding habit, which gave rise to the belief that some crime had been committed. Inquiry at the railroad station brought out the fact that the young woman had taken a train to Boston. Search was made on all trains of her name lost. The news was reluctantly told to Mr. Whittier and he was cast down with grief.

Yesterday a telegram was received from the young woman at East Saginaw, Mich., saying that she was at that place with friends. She did not explain her departure nor signify any intention to return. The telegram was at once sent to Mr. Whittier, and he advised one of the family to go at once to the young girl and try to induce her to return. One of the family left last night, and is now on her way to East Saginaw.

Phœbe is Home.

NEW YORK, Aug. 9.—A Danvers, Mass., special says: Miss Phœbe Woodman, the adopten daughter of the poet Whittier, who ran away from home a week or ten days ago, has returned.

KILLED HER MOTHER.

An Old Lady Beaten to Death for Her Money in Kansas.

LAWRENCE, Kan., Aug. 9.—[Special wire.]—On last Saturday Mrs. Mary Rawlinson, aged 71 years, arrived in Oswego from Augusta, Kan., intending to reside with her daughter, Mrs. Harvey Willis. After a day or two the old lady quarrelled with her daughter, who refused to hand over possession of her mother's money, of which she had a considerable amount.

Monday morning the two women had a disgraceful quarrel, in which Mrs. Willis grabbed her mother by the hair, threw her violently to the floor, and beat and kicked her until she became unconscious.

In a few hours the injured woman died from the effects of her injuries. She died while dictating a will to exclude her unnatural daughter from receiving any of her property. Mrs. Willis has been arrested.

BURNED IN THE LAKE.

The City of Ashland Meets Her Fate—On of the Crew Drowned.

WASHBURN, Wis., Aug. 9.—[Special wire.]—The sidewheel steamer City of Ashland, owned by the Superior Lumber company, of Ashland, was burned about three miles out from this port yesterday. It is supposed she caught fire from sparks from the smokestack, and owing to the terrific wind, nothing could be done to save her.

Capt. Doherty and four of the crew jumped into the lake and were picked up by tugs that went to her assistance from here. One of the crew, Fred Lient, was drowned. The boat was towing a raft of logs, and when she caught fire let go her tow and tried to make this port. The hull was towed to Bayfield.

TRAIN WRECKERS.

A Fiendish Attempt to Throw a Train of Cars Into the Iowa River.

DAVENPORT, Iowa, Aug. 9.—[Special wire.]—An attempt was made yesterday to wreck the eastbound train on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific road near Iowa City. The plot seems to have been to precipitate the train into the Iowa river.

As the latter approached the long bridge over the stream, the engineer observed the misplacement of the rail on the right side a few lengths west of the bridge, and managed to bring the train to a full stop before reaching the structure.

On investigation it was found that spikes had been pulled from three rails, which would have been sufficient to throw the train into the river.

THE GREAT DROUTH.

Wisconsin Fields Drying up and Forest Fires Reported Increasing.

CAMP LAKE, Wis., Aug. 6.—Unless the prevailing drouth comes to a very speedy end, the indications are that a very considerable portion of southern Wisconsin will be little more than a black desert before many days. The recent dry spell has eclipsed anything in the recollection of the proverbial "oldest settler" and brush and prairie fires are reported from scores of localities.

Of ten farmers who were gathered last night at Postmaster McVey's hotel at this place, six have been engaged for several days in fighting back flames from their homesteads, while the familes of the other four have been taking turns in sitting up at night in order that that their households might be aroused in case of sudden danger.

The condition of the ground can scarcely be imagined. Every bit of moisture and sap has been burned out of the grass, bushes and all kinds of vegetables. The earth is so dry that even the roots of the stubble in recently mowed fields are burning over hundreds upon hundreds of acres. Sloughs and weedy streams which never before ceased running, have dried up and the air is filled with smoke of burning weeds on even bog land, while frame farm houses and barns are so baked that the application of a lighted match to the outside of many of them would at once reduce them to ashes.

Scores of wells fed by springs have gone dry, and farmers, in many cases, are compelled to go miles to lakes for water for household purposes.

In many cases farmers have plowed wide ridges around their homes and hay stacks in order to prevent the crossing of the flames, but even this precaution has in many instances proved futile. Cattle are suffering terribly, and the milk supply has been reduced to the minimum.

Old Sol Continues to Pour Down his Scorching Rays.

CHICAGO, Aug. 9.—Telegrams received to-day from central points throughout the entire 75,000 square miles of the drouth-stricken northwestern country, show the fearful sun's scorching of all vegetation continues unmitigated. Not a drop of rain has fallen except eight one-hundreths of an inch at Des Moines, a bare sprinkle on the deep dust.

Local observations in the various districts give but little hope of a break within the coming 24 hours. A trifle cooler weather and scattered light showers are expected in some places, but the conditions are such that if the possible little moisture and coolness are at all delayed their effect will be totally lost in a seemingly imminent further general rise of temperature from now to the end of the drouth region.

Forest Fires Reported in Many Sections of the Country.

GRAND HAVEN, Mich., Aug. 9.—Heavy forest fires have been raging throughout this section for the past two weeks, doing considerable damage. The fire department was called out to fight fire in an adjoining forest, south of the city, back of Lake Forest cemetery.

About 1,400 acres burned in that vicinity, and the fire encroached upon the cemetery, where it burned the grass off from about 30 lots, badly bleaching tombstones, etc. The fire is now under control south of here, but it is raging fiercely to the southeast of the city.

The Spread is Rapid and Thousands of Dollars Worth of Timber is Burning.

NEILLSVILLE, Wis., Aug. 9.—Forest fires have broken out again in this vicinity and are causing considerable damage on the East Fork, the logging camp of Charles Squires has been burned, including all the slides and other camp stuff. The loss is quite heavy. Near the same place is a jam of thousands of logs which are threatened.

The fire is within a mile of the jam and the wind blowing towards it. Aug Hazeley, a farmer about 7 miles from here, lost 225 cords of wood. The fire broke out yesterday on Wedge Creek, 7 miles west of here, and it is spreading rapidly. Much is in the neighborhood of Hewittsville, which was destroyed by fire just a year ago yesterday, when Hewitt's mills were swept away.

Considerable apprehension is felt here and the city has been thoroughly wet down by the water works. Everything is very dry and if there is no rain within the next 24 hours greater damage than that inflicted last year may be expected.

News just received that the large stave mill of Hein & Meyer, on Wedge creek, together with thousands of dollars worth of staves, is in great danger and a crew of men has started from the city to fight the flames.

A fierce fire is raging in the wood marsh southeast of Portage, and a force of men is hard at work fighting the flames. A large amount of hay has been swept away and other property is in danger.

The Northern Part of Kent County, Mich., All Ablaze.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Aug. 9.—Forest fires are raging fearfully in the northern part of Kent county. At Sand Lake the fire got into the pine slashing and for some time came near devouring the village. Farm houses and buildings adjacent to the fire were barely saved by heroic efforts.

The woods and fields in every direction about Cedar Springs are on fire, and pretty much everybody are engaged in fighting the flames, and trying to save farm property.

Several residences were yesterday surrounded by fire, and only by great effort was the property saved. Fences and timber were burned valued at several thousand dollars. Fanned by a brisk breeze the flames spread rapidly.

If rain does not come soon there will be heavy losses. Crops are suffering terribly. Fire broke out in the pineries near Grandville yesterday afternoon and there is danger of the village burning up. Fires are also burning in the marshes near the city, and the smoke is thick all about.

IMPORTANT CASE.

The Validity of the Payment of Confederate Money on Notes to be Tested.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., Aug. 9.—An important question, involving the validity and legality of the payment of Confederate money on notes given in settlement for a large and valuable tract of land, is being heard before U. S. Judge John J. Jackson.

In 1860 Hiram L. Opie, father of the plaintiff, lived in Jefferson county. He sold a farm to a gentleman named Castleman, for $40,000, of which $10,000 was paid in cash, the balance to be paid in equal annual installments, the last payment falling due in 1864. Shortly after the sale Opie moved to Staunton, Va., and then died.

His wife and son, Dr. Thomas Opie, were made executors under the provisions of the will. After the war broke out, it is alleged that Castleman secured a large amount of Confederate money, and going through the lines paid off the notes of $5,000 each, due in 1861 and 1862 with this money, which which had greatly depreciated in value.

Before the notes fell due in 1864, it is alleged that Mrs. Opie notified Castleman that she would not accept Confederate money, but that she would take notes on any of the Virginia banks. Castleman then, it is said, secured enough Virginia money which was also greatly depreciated, and paid the remainder of the notes.

Hiram L. Opie, jr., now claims an interest in the lands for the amount of the debt paid in Virginia and Confederate money, claiming that this money was illegal and worthless, and that the executrix and executor "committed waste," when by the terms of the contract the debt was to be paid in good and lawful money of the United States. The defendants insist that the payment was legal under the circumstances.

Judge Jackson has taken the matter under advisement.

The attorneys of the states of Virginia and West Virginia look upon the settlement of the case as of great importance, involving as it may the ownership of vast and valuable tracts of land and other property in different sections of the South.

BACK FROM ALASKA.

Beautiful Scenery and a Great Country Reported.

TACOMA, W. T., Aug. 9.—The steamer Olympian has just returned from a trip to Alaska, bearing Senators Cameron, of Pennsylvania; Vest, of Missouri, and Farwell, of Illinois; Collectors Swineford, of Alaska, and Houser, of Montana; Alex. F. Shepherd, of the New York *Star*.

They say the scenery was something wonderful. The gold mountains of Douglass Island were particularly astonishing.

Alaska's Indians they found far advanced in many directions to Christianity. Liberal contributions were made by the excursionists for the Indian schools, and the senators promised co-operation in still further enlarging them. The party witnessed the departure of an Indian fleet of six sail boats from Metlacttla, British Columbia, for Port Chester, Alaska, being an advance division of a thousand Indians, who seek better homes in our country.

The "Boodle" Trial.

CHICAGO, Aug. 9.—The Appellate court this afternoon granted a supersedeas in the case of E. S. McDonald. The case cannot now be reached until the October term. This decision applies to McGarigle as well, though he has not taken any part in the application. The exceedingly prompt action taken by Judges McAllister and Moran was a surprise to the state and to the defendants counsel. The motion to admit the boodler to bail was denied.

DEMOCRATIC ELOQUENCE.

A Speech Which Should, and Doubtless Will, go Thundering Down the Ages.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—A great many Democrats in Washington are wondering why their brethren in Virginia held a state convention at Roanoke. No ticket was nominated no action was taken upon anything but a set of resolutions, which place the Democrats of Virginia in antagonism to the Democrats of other states.

The convention, however, did acknowledge that the position taken by Mahone and his followers on the state debt question was correct and that it was no longer of any use to fight Mahone on that issue. It is suspected the convention was called to give certain leaders a chance to administer taffy to the Cleveland administration, for there were many speeches that would come under that designation.

There was ex-Congressman Barbour, who has been recalled to the chairmanship of the state committee. He is known for his many quiet denunciations of the occupants of the White House, yet he found he could sing hallelujahs to Great Grover as well as the most pronounced lickspittle, and he made the further statement which showed his ignorance, that now, for the first time within a quarter of a century, the Southern states are represented in the cabinet.

Barbour forgets all about Attorney General Akerman, in President Grant's cabinet, Postmaster Key and Mr. Bayard, and Secretary of the Navy Goff, in President Hayes's cabinet, and Secretary of the Navy Hunt, appointed by Garfield. But it remained for ex-Senator Harris to rid himself of the biggest amount of administration taffy heard during the session of the convention. Here are some of his sentences about Cleveland: "He is the heir of Andrew Jackson; the philosophy of Franklin, and the statesmanship of Jefferson.

"Never saw such a man. He looks unlike any man I ever saw, and no man I ever saw looks like him. Nobody knows what he is going to do. He marches on in the even tenor of his way, but he gets there just the same. [Great laughter.] He has as much brain as any two men ought to have, and as much body as any three. His foundation is so firm that all h—l and the black Republicans couldn't trip him up. [Laughter and applause.] I never heard of his turning out anybody, and yet there is not a Republican officer in Virginia to-day. [Tremendous applause.] That is one of his peculiar methods. [Laughter.]

"Where are those officials now? [A voice, "Gone glimmering."] Yes, gone glimmering down the tide of time, to return, let us hope, no more." [Prolonged applause.] The much rejected John Goode, as permanent chairman of the convention, also unwound himself in praise of Cleveland, possibly in hope that his name might be sent to the Senate for another office, but after studying the proceedings it is difficult to find out what, if anything, was accomplished by the meeting of the Virginia Democratic covention.

THE FISHERIES.

Movement of The American Vessels in the Northern Waters.

HALIFAX, N. S., Aug. 9.—Admiral Luce, U. S. N., will leave Halifax for Bar Harbor next Thursday on the war ship Richmond. The Ossipe and Galena will probably sail in company with the Richmond. The Galena arrived in the harbor this evening. Her officers report that a thick fog prevailed on the gulf fishing grounds where they came along and that they saw only one or two schooners on their way up the gulf.

Four weeks ago they boarded a number of American fishermen for the purpose of advising them not to commit any violation of the treaty. The fishing vessels were then just commencing to arrive in the gulf, and so far as could be observed, were conducting themselves properly.

The Galena and Yantic came through Canso straight together on Sunday, the Yantic being bound for Bar Harbor, where she will meet the flagship Richmond. Last evening the Galena's officers learned from a telegram had been sent to Port Hawkesbury ordering the Yantic to proceed to Halifax, and they think the order could not have been received.

On her return to the United States the Ossipee will go on the dock to repair some slight damage to her false keel and forefoot received when she grounded in Halifax harbor. The news that the schooner Argonaut and French, the vessels whose seine boats were seized at Souris, had reached Gloucester all right had only became known yesterday. It was received with considerable satisfaction by Consul Phelan, who was afraid they would run against some of the cruisers in the gulf and be seized.

PRESIDENT WOODRUFF.

He Issues an Address and Takes Charge of the Mormor Church.

SALT LAKE, Utah, Aug. 6.—[Special wire.]—The question of successorship to the presidency of the Mormon church, has been settled temporarily by the appearance of an address signed by Wilford Woodruff, president of the apostles. He says: "As upon two former occastons in our history, the duty and responsibility of presiding over and directing the affairs of the church of Jesus Christ in all the world devolves on the twelve apostles. With the blessing of the Lord and the faith and prayers of his people, we hope to do our duty until we, too, shall be laid to rest."

It has been believed by some that either George O. Cannon or Joseph F. Smith, nephew of the original Joseph, would assume the leadership. Woodruff is in the regular line of succession and his address, assuming control, would indicate there is to be no departure from the orders. Woodruff is 80 years old and a man of mediocre ability.

He has been in hiding two years, and is still out of sight to all save the faithful. His presidency will not be as rigorous or popular as would have been Cannon's or Smith's. As a matter of course the Mormons will accept him. It is not probable a formal election will take place before next April, if then. The apostles, with Taylor at their head, ruled three years after Brigham Young's death before Taylor was chosen president.

ESCAPED FROM HONOLULU.

Ex-Premier Takes a Trip to California in the Bark Spreckles.

PORT TOWNSEND, W. T., Aug. 6.—[Special wire.]—Additional advices by the bark Celusa from Honolulu, July 13, say that ex-Premier Gibson escaped July 13 on the bark John G. Spreckles. On that date he was acquitted of having defrauded the government. The bark Spreckles was lying near the wharf with everything ready to set sail. A carriage which was waiting at the rear door of the court room, conveyed Gibson without a moment's delay to the vessel, which cast off lines and headed for San Francisco.

It required less than 20 minutes for Gibson to leave the court room and get on board the Spreckles.

Hazeltine, Gibson's son-in-law, is still in jail, awaiting trial for being an accessory of Gibson.

Business has been resumed. Capitalists, who were holding back are investing money, and a general feeling prevails that Hawaii has a stable government under whice just laws will be enacted.

SHIFT FOR THEMSELVES.

The American Fishermen Need Expect no Aid from Cleveland.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—[Press.]—Secretary Whitney's order to Admiral Luce to back down from the position he took relative to American fishermen on the Canadian coast and telling him to undo all that he had looking to the proper recognition of the rights of Americans, is regarded as an indication that the Administration will not interfere to protect its citizens if they dare to venture away from home, and they may be insulted by the officials of other governments with impunity.

This is the second time within a few months that the administration has backed squarely down in the face of British bluster. It released the vessels seized not long ago for illegally taking seals, and it is expected to do the same thing with the more recent cases of this kind that have arisen.

ANOTHER MARTYR.

Straws Which Tell Why Texas Went So Strong Against Prohibition.

GALVESTON, Aug. 9.—Alex. Walker, the colored prohibitionist speaker who was set upon and badly beaten and mangled by being thrown against a wire fence soon after he had made a speech at Prairie Grove, near Webberville, in this county, last week, died on Sunday from the effects of his injuries. His friends claim that he was beaten by anti-prohibitionists, but it is known who his assailants were.

Royal Visitors at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—The Siamese Prince, accompanied by several members of his suite and Gen. Holderman, was formally presented to the President at 11 o'clock this morning by Acting Secretary of State Porter.

The Prince was attired in citizens' clothes, but the members of his suite wore full court costumes.

The visitors were received in the Blue parlor, and were shown through the other rooms. The East room was tastefully decorated with many tropical and other plants.

DON'T LIKE IT.

Virginia Democrats Going Back on the Ohio Platform.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—It is evident that the Democrats of Virginia and those of Ohio are not agreed on very many things. The Petersburg *Index-Appeal* wants the Democratic State Convention, when it meets, to copy most of the platform adopted by the Ohio Republicans at Toledo. This is what it says in an editorial:

"Eliminating from the Ohio Republican platform its bloody shirt features, its advocacy os the dependent pension frauds, its indorsement of Mr. Sherman, and a few demagogical platitudes set to catch voters, and we have a very excellent declaration of principles, which the Roanoke convention might adopt with assurance of popular approval in this state."

It pronounces for protection of American industries, for liberal appropriations, for public education, for a proper restriction—not prohibition—of foreign immigration, and a reduction of the surplus revenue by a method that cannot fail to command itself to the favor of Virginia Democrats, viz.: Abolition of the tax on American grown tobacco. Every one of these principles the approaching Democratic convention can consistently adopt.

"Not a single one can it safely omit." The editorial only goes to show the extent to which the people of Virginia have been educated on the tariff question within the last two years. When Senator Sherman and Major McKinley went down into that state in the campaign of 1885, they introduced the tariff to the masses that gathered to hear them.

Hitherto they had never heard anything but sectional discussions intended to inflame into enmities and prejudices in favor of a solid South, and the speeches of the Ohio orators made a good impression upon them, and were not wholly lost. So interested are the people touching the question that the Democrats who in the pas have been championed by such eminent free-traders as Randolph Tucker, now favor protection to home industry almost as strongly as do the Republicans. It will be interesting to bontrast the views of the Democrats in Ohio with those of the Democrats in Virginia, when the platform of the latter is constructed.

GAVE UP IN DISGUST.

Baltimore Civil Service Advocates Have Discovered Grover's Treachery.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—[Special wire.]—Charges will not be preferred against Naval Officer Basin, Appointment Clerk Higgins or Indian Commissioner Thomas for undue interference in the recent Baltimore election, by either of the civil service reform associations of that city. This is settled.

There are two organizations in Baltimore which are sometimes confounded with each other. One is known as the Baltimore Reform league, the other as the Maryland Civil Service Reform association.

Gentlemen connected with the first named society feel aggrieved because formal charges preferred by them two months ago against the collector of internal revenue for Maryland for appointing a batch of convicted criminals to places in his office, have not yet, as they state, received even the courtesy of an acknowledgment from the Treasury department.

Consequently they have gone out of the business of preferring charges. Leading officials of the Maryland civil service reform association, in interviews with a reporter took similar grounds. They insist that a sufficient case for action by the president has been made up by the public notority of the facts, and that if a trustworthy commission should be appointed to look into the matter, abundant testimony would be forthcoming; that in fact, the persons accused would not attempt to deny the charges, being proud of the part they have played.

They say they can never expect to make out clearer cases than they did against Higgins and Thomas, when they endeavored to put him at the head of the department. If clearly-shown corrupt and fraudulent conduct was not deemed a disqualification for appointment, they consider it unlikely that the offense of running primaries would be considered sufficient grounds for their dismissal.

RING WITHIN A RING.

The Transportation Steal on the Gould System Pales the Tie Contracts Into Insignificance.

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 5.—The *Globe Democrat* says there is a flourishing ring in the office of the Missouri Pacific railway company, and another ring within it, the depredations of which are seriously impairing the interests of stock and bondholders.

The reporter's informant said: "There was a time in the office of the Missouri Pacific road to whom I paid $50 each week of the year for the privilege of shipping men over the roads free. I was one of the several who furnished the contractors under Cowan & Co. with tie makers and graders.

"These men were presumed to be workingmen, but so long as they paid the price, it was no place to be too inquisitive. I had to give one man a percentage on every man who went over the road as a workingman. This whole system is rotten and the matter of tie contracts sinks into insignificance when compared to the transportation steal."

Another labor agent complained that there was only one way to get men to their work over the Gould system, and that was to send them by the pass of a certain contractor, and to do this $1 had to be paid to the agent. "Three-fourths of the men sent down," he said, "were not laboring men at all. It's many a man that's gone to Nettleton for $1 where the regular fare is $7.25. At this hot weather any work, but men to day take passes this way, but that will amount to $2,500 a month, and in the traveling season it's a big item."

COWARDLY ASSASSINS.

A Young Man Fired Upon While Driving Through a Dense Forest.

MASSILLON, O., Aug. 3.—Charley Deckard, aged 23, son of John Deckard, one of the most prosperous farmers in this township, is one of the best known and most popular young men in the west end of Stark county.

This young man barely escaped death at the hands of an assassin between 2 and 3 o'clock yesterday morning. Sunday night was passed with his sweetheart on the Plains, and in returning home he drove on a by-road, covered on both sides by a thick forest.

The night was very dark, and while passing that point he was fired upon by a coward protected from view by the trees and shades of night. The bullet passed through the bed of the buggy and lodged in the cusion seat, barely missing the occupant's leg. When cut out from where it was embedded, the ball was found to be a 32-caliber.

As not even the form of the assassin was distinguished there seems to be no possible clue to establish his identity, and the mystery is further deepened by the fact that Deckard does not know of any person who entertains sufficient malice against him to even do him an injury. Nor is it believed to be the act of highwaymen, for the road is used by very few travelers in the day time.

A CRAZY IRISHMAN.

He Attempts to Blow Up the British Ocean Steamer Queen.

NEW YORK, August 3.—A crazy Irishman, whose name the police have not yet discovered, tried to blow up the british ocean steamer Queen of the National line this afternoon.

He rowed up in a small boat alongside the Queen, and threw a bottle contaming fome kind of an explosive on board.

An explosion followed, which set fire to the steamer. The flames, however, were soon extinguished.

The police went in pursuit of the fellow in a row boat. He had put out for the Jersey shore, but they captured him before he succeeded in making a landing, and brought him to police headquarters.

He said he was one of a band of men who had effected an organization having for its object the destruction with explosives of every vessel belonging to England

Mooney Insane.

NEW YORK, Aug. 9.—Drs. Fitch and Field, examiners in lunacy for the department of charities and correction, to-day reported that they had examined T. J. Mooney, the alleged dynamiter who set fire to the steamer Queen, and found him to be insane.

Murdered Her Child.

BALTIMORE, Aug. 6.—Mrs. Prajak, a Bohemian woman, living in the northeastern section, this morning drowned her 12-year-old child in the bath tub. After the child was dead, she retired to her room and placed it on the bed, locking herself in, and then cut her throat with a razor.

Texas Tragedy.

NACOGDOCHE, Tex., Aug. 9.—Another tragedy occurred here last evening. W. F. Brantley, a prominent merchant of this place, was shot and instantly killed by W. C. Roberts of Chireno, in this (Nacogdoche) county. The men wounded in the fight here on the 4th justant, are doing well.

All circumstances attending McGarigle's escape are now so completely known to the proper officials that indictments of every one who aided him to get away is promised in advance, and it is announced to-day that a special grand jury is to be called without delay at Chicago.

THE NEW YORK PRESS.

They are Having Lots of Fun Over the Sad Condition of the Mugwumps.

NEW YORK, Aug. 4.—In concluding its editorial on the address of Mr. George William Curtis before the National Civil Service League, the *Times* says:

When all allowance has been made for the President on account of the difficulties of his task and the tremendous pressure of politicians' activity and party inertia, it would be well if he could be induced to reflect upon the sources of his own strength. What carried him to his present position was not yielding to party pressure, but resisting it; not seeking to advance his own interests by the expedients of practical politicians, but relying confidently for support on an honest, courageous and faithful performance of public duty.

This made him stronger than his party, and advanced him to his present place. So far as he has continued to display the same qualities he has maintained and increased his strength with the people, and wherever he has lapsed from firmness and energetic self-assertion, he has suffered loss in that popular esteem which makes him necessary to his party and the politicians of his party unnecessary to him.

If anything should destroy his splendid chances for further service to the nation it would be yielding to the personal sense of right and his staunch adherence to principles to the delusive demands of party expediency.

The *Tribune* says:

Are the mugwumps getting ready to desert the Cleveland? It certainly looks so; and judging from the speech which George William Curtis delivered at Newport yesterday, he will be the first man of the contingent to retreat over the gang plank.

* * * * * * *

Such is the verdict of the head and front of the Mugwumps upon Mr. Cleveland, now that he has been president two years and five months. This interesting band of reformers may well hang their heads and array themselves in penitential sackcloth as they reflect upon what sort of a man it is, on their own confession, that they helped to place in the White House.

To support Mr. Cleveland in 1884 they were not to be understood as supporting the Democratic party—that was the remarkable sort of unction which they laid to their soul.

They have at length, as Mr. Curtis, certainly has—that the whole is greater than any one of its parts; that the dog wags the tail, not the tail the dog; that the Democratic party controls Cleveland, not Cleveland the Democratic party.

The *Sun* says:

As between George William Curtis, Mugwump, and a large number of Democrats, it must be said that Mr. Curtis shows a greater disposition to tell the truth.

The *World* says:

The frank admission of facts, long ignored by the Mugwump supporters of the President, is directly in line with what the *World* has been saying for a long time past. The President has been a reformer in words chiefly. The "very general principle of party construction of the civil service" has continued the precedent under which the Republicans would again seize the offices upon a change in administration.

If the reformers had been earlier with their criticism and more prompt with their regrets, it is possible that they would have less ground now for disappointment.

The *Herald* makes no editorial comment on the address.

TRIGG COUNTY RUINED.

Following the Earthquake Shocks the Land Sinks Five Feet and is Flooded.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Aug. 3—[Special wire.—The sinking of land in Trigg county, Ky., since the earthquake of Monday night, has caused much excitement. A prominent gentleman who has just arrived from Hopkinsville, the following particulars were obtained: He says that the country about the scene is low and swampy and almost inaccessible in places, save by old, beaten paths.

Much of it is wild and contains large, dense woods. Golden Pond is a mere hamlet, containing two settlements of negroes who eke out a living by working on several large farms owned by non-residents.

Monday night, about 6 o'clock, several of them felt the earth tremble, but thought nothing serious had occurred beyond a slight tremor, and, after gossipping over it, went to bed.

About 12 o'clock everbody was awakened by a slight shock, and had barely jumped to their feet, when the earth, with a shaking dizzy motion, suddenly sank a distance of five feet, carrying houses and terrified darkies with it. The scenes that ensued baffle description. The negroes fell on their knees and in frenzied tones

PRAYED THE LORD TO SAVE THEM.

Others began shouting and praising the Almighty, and ever and anon casting an upward glance to see if chariots of fire were not descending. Added to this pandemonium was the intense darkness which prevailed, the moon being completely obscured by heavy black clouds, which hung very low and like a pall over the doomed district.

Rumblings were heard from the depths below, which gradually became louder, and numerous springs, hidden for years, suddenly found an opening, and began to bubble upward in constantly increasing streams.

The terrified inhabitants, not pausing for household goods or chattels, gathered their offspring hurriedly and rushed away

FROM THE DOOMED SPOT,

and some of them are still putting as much distance between them and the sinking land as possible.

The more courageous ones only fled until they reached safe ground, and there waited until daylight, when they ventured back to the scene of the night's terror and gazed sadly upon the ruin spread before them.

Over 250 acres of fine farm land, including one magnificent plantation, owned by Z. H. Hayden, lay from five to six feet below the level of the surrounding country, and contained about three feet of water from the springs started by the earthquake.

A large area of tobacco and corn will be a total loss. Nearly all the cabins have been torn loose and are floating about in various positions, while household goods are mixed up in inextricable confusion. Fortunately no lives have been lost, but the loss to property is incalculable.

The catastrophe was undoubtedly caused by the earthquake, which was noticeable in Tennessee, Missouri, Kentucky and Indiana at 10:30, as the rumbling sounds and vibrations felt were similar to that of a slesmic disturbance.

Golden Pond is about 100 miles distant from the spot where a similar catastrophe occurred about 70 years ago, when a lake of large area suddenly disappeared, leaving nothing but the bed, in the center of which was a hole of unfathomable depth and several hundred yards in diameter.

FLOODS AND IGNORANCE

Combine to Wipe Out the Population of China—Diabolical Europeans.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 3.—[Special wire.]—The Occidental and Oriental steamer Gaelic, arrived last night from the Orient, after a very quick passage of 14 days and 9 minutes. She brings Yokohama passengers up to July 19th and China news to July 14.

S. S. Popoff, Chinese secretary to the Russian legation in Pekin, has just published a pamphlet on the Chinese population in which he states it to be 382,000,000, as against 413,000,000 in the year 1842. His statistics are derived from Chinese official sources.

The Chinese native papers contain the following items:

Plague of sudden death is raging at Nanking. People are dying in every quarter, and there are many instances of very sudden deaths. People are apparently well in the morning and dead in the afternoon. The *Hi-Pao* says that over 1,000 telegraph poles belonging to the Munanan Mingtaz district and Kweichow Lane Line, have been pulled down by the people who say the telegraph is a diabolical European article.

Troops to the number of 2,000 have been ordered to the spot.

Last week, according to the *Shen Pao*, no less than 88 persons were summarily executed near Shanghai for belonging to secret societies. The *Shen Pao* gives the most harrowing account of floods at Chu Chou Fu up the Wenchow river. Over a thousand human beings have been swept away, and the destruction of growing crops is immense.

BOLDER AND BOLDER.

Daring Train Robbers at Work in the State of Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 8.—[Special wire.]—A bold attempt at train robbery was made on the Pan-handle line early Sunday morning. About midnight the switchmen in the Pan-Handle freight yards discovered five men robbing a car of merchandize. They attempted to capture the robbers, but were compelled to throw up their hands and walk away.

Two or three hours later five men, supposed to be the same persons who robbed the car, stopped an outgoing freight train just beyond the city limits. While the engineer and train men were covered with revolvers the cars were all examined, but the robbers failed to find anything they wanted, and allowed the train to proceed on its trip.

The robbers disappeared in the fields along the road. None of them wore masks. The lender was recognized as a notorious thief whom the police have been trying for months to capture.

The Farmers of Ontario in Favor of Unrestricted Reciprocity.

TORONTO, Ont., Aug. 5.—The executive committee of the Central Farmers' Institute of Ontario has held a meeting here and declared itself strongly in favor of unrestricted reciprocity with the United States, and has decided to push the work of organization throughout the province.

ROBBING THE TREASURY.

A Scandal in Washington That is Liable to Cause Trouble.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—[Special wire.]—Information received from a source which appears to be trustworthy, indicates that a serious scandal is impending in the Treasury department. Several months ago a letter from one of its officers, the surveyor-general of California, fell like a thunder bolt within the walls of the General Land office.

It is asserted that this letter in question contained certain United States treasury drafts which the surveyer-general had received direct from the treasury department with a number of others, to deliver to certain persons whose addresses he was to ascertain.

These drafts were in fact for payment or satisfaction of claims which the persons in whose names they were drawn had against the gouernment for services rendered as deputy surveyors for the surveys of the public lands under general appropriations for that purpose, and also under what is known as the special deposit system.

The official, in returning these treasury drafts, stated that while he had delivered all the others, or caused them to be delivered, to the persons for whose benefit they were issued, he had failed to find the payees of the drafts enclosed in his letter, as some were dead and others had moved to parts unknown.

The irregularity of the proceedings was apparent to Sparks, and it is asserted that he went then, and has been ever since, the most indignant man in Washington, for, upon a careful comparison of the plats and accounts in satisfaction of which these treasury drafts had been issued, it was found that in many cases they had been paid long years before, some of them as long ago as 1872 or 1873.

It is asserted that Commissioner Sparks addressed a most energetic remenstrance to the